Read these words and employ them wisely.

RARITIES IN THE LIGHT OF COMMON SENSE

Walter Breen

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Every so often it is worthwhile to return to the paramount, perennial questions: How rare is this date? Are there a couple of dozen, a couple of hundred, a couple of thousand, or a couple of million around? Do the price scales in the red book and the gray sheet reflect auction performance, or dealers' wishful thinking, or sheer guesswork?

Constant dealer repetition of "Very Rare," "Extremely Rare" --or even "Excessively Rare"--has generated, on the one hand, a vast collection of erroneous ideas, and on the other hand a cynical skepticism of all similar claims. Even after nearly forty years, Dr. Sheldon's pungent comment still applies: "Numismatics ... has always had its shady fringe of unscrupulous dealers--men who exaggerate condition, rarity, and value when they sell, and understate some or all of these when they buy. These men depend on a large turnover in the collector population, with a resulting continuous supply of suckers. ... Dealers' dreams do sometimes get into print." (Early American Cents, pp. 29, 35.)

The very first thing to keep in mind, therefore, is that between actual rarity and price the relationship is never as clear-cut as economics textbooks would lead you to believe. Part of the reason is in the nomenclature. Strictly speaking, rare means that only a limited number of collectible specimens exist. The definition is unavoidably vague: how many is "a limited number"? This is partly why Sheldon insisted on making his 8-point rarity scale quantitative, from R-1 "common" to R-8 "unique or nearly unique--not over 3 in collectors' hands." Its automatic limitations: 1) often the actual number extant cannot be known with certainty; 2) dealers using such estimates are under pressure--by their own greed and their consignors'--to exaggerate. Most conspicuously, this occurs when a coin was listed long ago as R-7 ("4 to 12 known") but continues to be so listed after a dozen more have turned up.

This is partly why the so-called law of supply and demand does not work in the coin market. Nor can any attempt to modify its mathematical formulation make it work. Incompleteness and varying delays in diffusion of essential updated information are only part of the reason; there are many ad hoc exceptions in each denomination. Price levels on these vary more with publicity than with actual numbers known. Information that could affect price levels is also often manipulated by those in a position to determine the timing of publicity. The more often you are told that this or that date is rare, the more likely you are to believe it,

even when new specimens are continuing to appear. The more the market for a particular series is manipulated, the more likely that the publicity will stimulate demand.

The way this usually works: a few dealers hoard individual issues or series, publish offers to buy while temporarily offering none for sale, make certain that the buy offers get into the gray sheet; then, after enough others have begun imitating them, especially if the new prices have affected the red book, they unload. A few months later the process repeats with a different series. Your only recourse in this game is to learn the truth about each series. Then you can decide whether to buy a particular series now, or later, or not at all.

In the following sections, I propose to go through the entire series of federal coinages (half cents to double eagles and commemoratives), checking for alleged rarity. In the process, a few balloons are inevitably going to be punctured, and some other issues will show up as rarer than formerly believed. Hitherto unpublished data are from my Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins (Doubleday, in press). As that book deals entirely with major varieties (those in which at least one letter punch, numeral punch, larger design element, or layout, differs from other coins of the same type), rather than minor (positional) varieties, I shall follow the same procedure here.

HALF CENTS

Two and One Half Dollar U.S. Gold 1796-1834

In four volumes 1796-1929: 1796-1834, 1834-39, 1840-1907, 1908-29.

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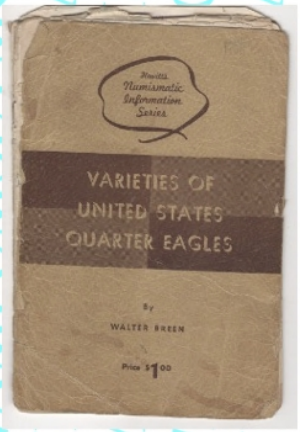
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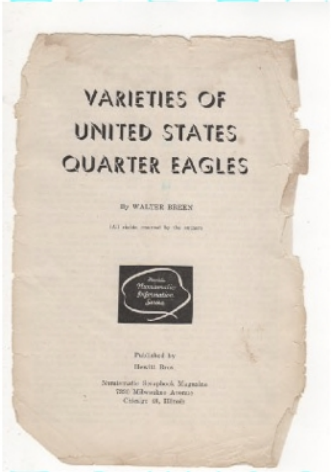
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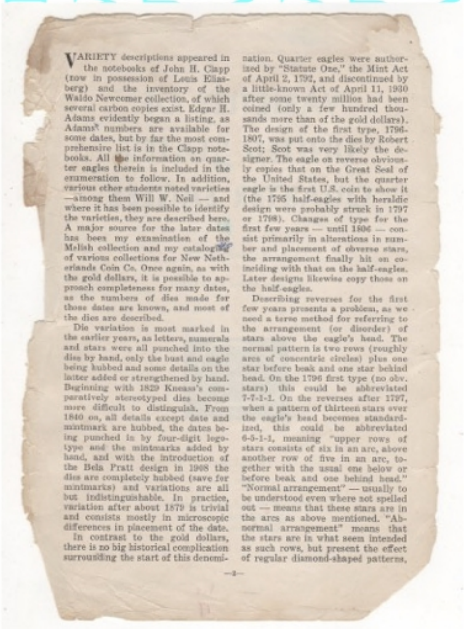
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WB's Original Monograph.





WB's annotated copy.



VARIETY descriptions appeared in the notebooks of John H. Clapp (now in possession of Louis Eliasberg) and the inventory of the Waldo Newcomer collection, of which several carbon copies exist. Edgar H. Adams evidently began a listing, as Adams' numbers are available for some dates, but by far the most comprehensive list is in the Clapp notebooks. All the information on quarter eagles therein is included in the enumeration to follow. In addition, various other students noted varieties —among them Will W. Neil — and where it has been possible to identify the varieties, they are described here. A major source for the later dates has been my examination of the Melish collection and my catalogue of various collections for New Netherlands Coin Co. Once again, as with the gold dollars, it is possible to approach completeness for many dates, as the numbers of dies made for these dates are known, and most of the dies are described.

Die variation is most marked in the earlier years, as letters, numerals and stars were all punched into the dies by hand, only the bust and eagle being hubbed and some details on the latter added or strengthened by hand. Beginning with 1829 Kneass's comparatively stereotyped dies become more difficult to distinguish. From 1840 on, all details except date and mintmark are hubbed, the dates being punched in by four-digit logotype and the mintmarks added by hand, and with the introduction of the Bela Pratt design in 1908 the dies are completely hubbed (save for mintmarks) and variations are all but indistinguishable. In practice, variation after about 1879 is trivial and consists mostly in microscopic differences in placement of the date.

In contrast to the gold dollars, there is no big historical complication surrounding the start of this denomination. Quarter eagles were authorized by "Statute One," the Mint Act of April 2, 1792, and discontinued by a little-known Act of April 11, 1930 after some twenty millions had been coined (only a few hundred thousands more than of the gold dollars). The design of the first type, 1796-1807, was put onto the dies by Robert Scot; Scot was very likely the designer. The eagle on reverse obviously copies that on the Great Seal of the United States, but the quarter eagle is the first U.S. coin to show it (the 1795 half-eagles with heraldic design were probably struck in 1797 or 1798). Changes of type for the first few years — until 1806 — consist primarily in alterations in number and placement of obverse stars, the arrangement finally hit on coinciding with that on the half-eagles. Later designs likewise copy those on the half-eagles.

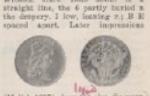
Describing reverses for the first few years presents a problem, as we need a terse method for referring to the arrangement (or disorder) of stars above the eagle's head. The normal pattern is two rows (roughly arcs of concentric circles) plus one star before beak and one star behind head. On the 1796 first type (no obv. stars) this could be abbreviated 7-7-1-1. On the reverses after 1797, when a pattern of thirteen stars over the eagle's head becomes standardized, this could be abbreviated 6-5-1-1, meaning "upper rows of stars consists of six in an arc, above another row of five in an arc, together with the usual one below or before beak and one behind head." "Normal arrangement" — usually to be understood even where not spelled out — means that these stars are in the arcs as above mentioned. "Abnormal arrangement" means that the stars are in what seem intended as such rows, but present the effect of regular diamond-shaped patterns,

many stars being placed in intersecting straight lines. This pattern—seen, e.g., on the 1804 fourteen-star reverse — comes from various half eagle and dime reverses. "Irregular" means that the stars are not placed in rows of either kind. In the "normal" and "abnormal" arrangements where it will be necessary to refer to individual stars, the top row—usually six stars — will be numbered 1 to 6, the second row from 7 to 11 and the ones from below or before beak and behind head respectively 12 and 13. These methods will be simpler in practice than the above description suggests.

— 1796 —

Total of 1390 minted, comprising 963 without stars and 432 with, most of them very late in the year (after the Director had made his prematurely ordered Annual Report) or early in 1797. Standard wt. 67.5 grains, .9163 fine. The punches used for letters and numerals seem to have been identical with those found on the dimes, for this and many years to follow. Claims that more than one die variety of 1796 exists with stars have been found incorrect. The rarity of both types is high but characteristically gets exaggerated whenever either shows up in an auction. A number of specimens of each type exist in or near mint state, reflecting the usual practice of saving specimens as first year of issue. However, specimens of all years through 1807 with the capped bust to r. are frequently misgraded in either direction. Because the eagle's breast above the shield — a part in high relief — comes directly opposite the central area of Miss Liberty's curls, either or both of these areas can seldom be found perfectly struck up and the coin is as a result inconsistently graded. Sometimes this weak striking is mistaken for wear and the coin downgraded; perhaps more often, other areas are mistaken for this characteristic weak striking and the coin upgraded.

1. "No stars." Adams 1; Clapp 1; Newcomer 672. Mintage 963. Obv. Without stars. Date about in a straight line, the 6 partly buried in the drapery. I low, leaning r.; B E spaced apart. Later impressions



(Melish 1097) show the obv. die worn down, the lowest curl fragmentary. Rev. 16 stars above eagle, 7-7-1-1; four berries in branch. A touches fourth feather. Usually found in VF to AU grade, a very few with claims to mint state. These may have either a prooflike lustre (similar to the halves, quarters and dimes of this year) or mint bloom, the latter being less often seen. High R-6, but evidently not R-7. The white metal "trial piece" in Melish 1099 is apparently a cast. I have not heard of any genuine trial pieces, but if they exist they are probably in copper.

2. "With stars." A-2; C-2; N-673. Mintage 432. Obv. Stars 8+8, this arrangement found on no other quarter eagle. E R T Y very widely spaced, unlike the preceding. (This



proves that the die did not merely have stars added, as some earlier writers have claimed.) Date more closely spaced, and more curved; 1 higher, and all of 6 visible though its top is punched in over drapery.

Rev. 16 stars, irregular; could be considered as 7-8-1-0 with two extra stars crowded in at extreme right, one partly buried in wing, the other directly above it. Four berries, one of them partly merged in upper edge of a leaf. A extremely close to 4th feather. Die scratches over TATE and extending through upper halves of these letters. The dies were not in parallel planes, and as a result, date, drapery and lower curls together with the lower stars at left are often weak. (Perfectly struck examples with normal curls and stars do exist.) Gaskill 179 (New Netherlands 48th Sale) shows clash marks near borders on both sides, and a bulge at NITE. Davis-Graves 662 claims a die crack from 96 to bust, and in this catalogue is the estimate "20 known." I believe this is over liberal, and rate the 1796 With Stars a borderline R-7. There are three or four brilliant mint state ones known; others range fine to AU.

— 1797 —

Only the one die variety of this date, and only 427 minted.

1. A-1; C-1; Newcomer 674. Stars 7+6 (i.e. seven left, six right of head) as on 1805, 1806/5 and 1807. Final 7 touches drapery; numerals closely spaced, 9 knobbed, as on the 13-star (but not the 16-star) dime of the year. B usually weak. Always with a heavy crack (nearly in a straight line) from Y and 8th star into field, down to inner point of 12th star, outer point of 13th to border. This break doubtless accounts for the limited mintage, as the die must have become quickly useless. Probably many of the specimens struck from it became quickly illegible as well. Rev. 16 stars, 7-7-1-1, but this is not the same as the first 1796 die. The three stars (8th, 9th, 10th) before beak are squeezed very close together. Four berries. A close to 3rd feather and touches 4th. Spur from 3rd feather points towards A. Usually weak on shield, though not always. This is one of the four or five rarest dates of double eagles, being at least a borderline R-7 and possibly a full R-7.

— 1798 —

Mintage 614 plus 480 in 1799. Two types, one considerably rarer and stylistically later than the other and therefore probably comprising the issue of 1799. Both have stars 6+7 as on no other year.

1. C-1; N-675. Obv. Closely spaced date, with the small 8 found on the overdate dimes of this year; this 8 not touching drapery. Seventh star very close to Y. Rev. Thirteen stars above eagle, 6-6-0-1; these stars look large and are squeezed together. Four berries, as on preceding years, one impaled on a leaf point. D away from wing. A touches 3rd and 4th feathers. Bunch of arrows extends well to r. of center of N. Leaf near extreme right foot of I. One known (Melish 1102) with an immense die break obliterating 1 in date, first three stars and part of the fourth; a piece must have fallen out of the die, rendering it subsequently useless. "Fatal Break." On the reverse of this coin, ED ST are too weakly struck to be readable, owing to the excessive amount of metal taken up by the break. Oddly, the coin is uncirculated; probably it was saved at the time, rather than being thrown into circulation. The "Close Date, Four Berries" type is R-6, rather rarer than the 1796 without stars.

2. C-2; N-676. Widely spaced date, 9 very close to drapery and the small 8 touching it; Y very distant (about its own width away) from star. Rev. 13 stars above eagle, normal arrangement (6-5-1-1) as on most to follow; these stars look smaller

(lightly punched?) and are well spaced apart. Arrows extend only to left upright of N. D close to wing. A touches 3rd feather, and is close to 4th. Leaf joined to right half of base of I. Five berries, as on those to follow. The reverse resembles that of N-678 of 1802, below, even to having E about centered over space between two clouds. The "Wide Date, Five Berries" type is a definite R-7 and is probably the issue of 1799 (480 coined). At present I know the following specimens: (1) Lester Merkin, ex Clemeny, Mills, Earle, Morgenthau April 1939, Gaskill. Choice Unc. and the finest known. (2) J. F. Lindsay, ex James Ten Eyck, Melish 1103, New Netherlands 49th Sale. VF. (3) Lot 257, New Netherlands 55th Sale. Fine. Plus two others of unknown pedigree in Fine to VF.

— 1802 —

Mintage 2612 plus 423 in 1803 from 1802-dated dies. Only the one obverse die known, but at least four reverses were muled with it, two of these being very rare. It is as yet impossible to say which of the varieties is the "1803." Most specimens are catalogued as "1802 over 1," but the overdate is never clear and on specimens of No. 4 with the worn obverse die it does not show at all. The listing is probably influenced by the half eagle, which also comes only as an overdate. As on the half-eagle of this year, the stars are arranged 8+5. The order of reverses presented here is tentative, in the absence of die break progression on obverse. All reverses have regularly arranged stars (6-5-1-1) and 5 berries.

1. C-2; N-678. Obv. LIB closely spaced, and 1, first star and L very close to devices. Rev. Very similar to 1798 No. 2, and possibly the same die though I have not been able lately to check this because of lack of available specimens or clear enough photographs. **E centered above space between two clouds;** 13th star directly below 10th and not very close to neck; arrows to left upright of N; A touches 3rd feather and is close to 4th; die scratch or break (?) from 2nd feather pointing to top of A; top two berries merged partly into leaves, the left one more than half into leaf. Rare.

2. C-3; N-679. Quickly identified by **leaf not touching any part of base of I.** 13th star close to neck, D close to wing, and in other respects similar to the reverses to follow. Very rare, none recently offered.

3. C-1; N-677. Upright of E over space between clouds. D fairly close to wing. **13th star extremely close to neck.** A close to 3rd feather and distant from 4th. Leaf joins r. half of base of I. All berries clear of leaves. Probably the commonest variety of the year; WGC 83, Gaskill 182, NN 49th sale lot 568, Melish 1104, Neumoyer 2349 (?), pictured in Std. Catalogue and Guidebook, etc., etc.

4. Not in C or N, probably confused with No. 1 or 3 above. Upright of E over space between clouds; D very close to wing; A touches 3rd & 4th feathers; **1st star recut, eight points showing;** 13th star far from neck; top four berries touch leaves but none merge into them; leaf joins r. half of base of I; 6th, 11th & 13th stars almost in a straight line; arrows to left upright of N; die scratch from upper left point (dexter chief point) of shield up to ribbon. Obverse now does not show any trace of overdate. Probably second commonest, but distinctly rarer than No. 3. Gaskill 183; "Cicero" 258 (NN 55th sale); Davis-Graves 666.

A question as yet unanswered is whether any of the foregoing reverses is identical to either dime reverse of 1802 or to any dime reverse of 1803. Since the fourteen-star reverse of 1804 was used on both dimes and quarter eagles, the possibility exists of similar die identities for other years.

— 1804 —

Mintage 3327 in all, consisting possibly of 2324 with 14 stars and 1003 with 13, but this division is tentative and the 13-star coin is much rarer than it should be with even a mintage of 1003. One of the few obverse dies of the year with a plain 4, the punch used being the same as that found on the dime. Only the one obverse; date high with small 8. Y touching 8th star, 13th star almost touching drapery.

1. Fourteen reverse stars. C-1; N-680. The 14 stars are in "abnormal arrangement," actually 6-6-1-1 but first three, 3rd, 9th to 12th, 7th to 9th & 4th, are intersecting straight lines, yielding the pattern of congruent diamond shapes. Four berries. Popular type coin, and though the commoner of the two varieties of this year, it is rare, almost certainly R-5.

2. C-2; N-681. Rev. Thirteen stars, normal arrangement (6-5-1-1). Branch straight with thin leaves and 5 very small berries. D close to wing; first T in STATES recut at base; leaf away from I; "needle beak" as on the 1802 dime reverse which this closely resembles—lower prong of beak prolonged, piercing star. Extremely rare, possibly R-7 or not far below it. None in WGC, Atwater, Melish or most other collections. Gaskill 184; "Cicero" 259; Neumoyer 2352 (with numeral 10 scratched into field — this collection, for comparison, had three 14-star coins).

— 1805 —

Mintage 1781; only the one variety known. The dies were still in usable condition at the end of the year and reverse served for 1806-07 coins; the obverse was later annealed and altered at the mint to make the 1806/5 die. The same procedure occurred with the quarter dollar of 1805 (Browning 4), which became an 1806/5 coin (Browning 1). Stars 7+6.

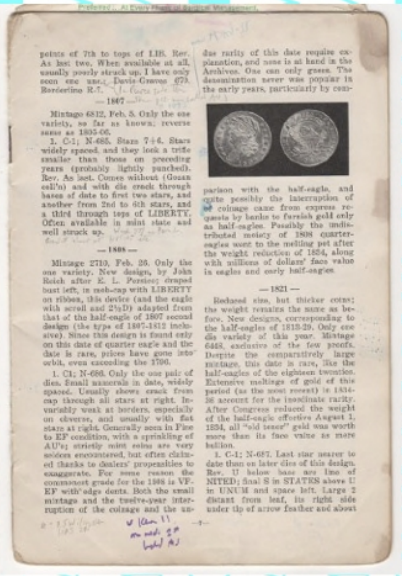
1. C-1; N-682. In date, numeral punches for 180 as on the dime; the 5 is smaller and looks most like that found on the rare "small 5, stems" half-cent of this year. The zero is larger than in 1804 on this and the coins to follow. Spur from border runs almost into 9th star. Die not cracked. Rev. Arrows extend only between U N; D close to wing. A close to 3rd & 4th feathers; 5 berries, three of them stemless. Leaves run into IC, and claw grazes A. The stars are large, the 11th recut showing seven points. Often weak at reverse border. R-5.

— 1806 —

Mintage 1616, consisting of two types: 1806/4 with stars 8+5, 1136 coined, and 1806/5 from the altered 1805 dies, with stars 7+6, 480 coined.

1. C-1; N-683. 1806/4. Stars 8+5. Not from the 1804 obverse used in that year; the zero is larger, Y far from star, and in fact all stars are widely spaced with the first merging with lowest curl and the 7th over cap and touching it (true of no other die of this period). Rev. As last. Later shows a die crack thru tops of LIB, another through tops of RTY and all stars at right. The coin pictured in the Standard Catalogue shows this crack heavily broken out to border touching LI. I have seen no duplicate of this state. The variety is borderline R-4.

2. C-2; N-684. Stars 7+6. Obv. identical to 1805, including the spur at 9th star, but with a 6 over the 5. This 6 touches the zero and leans r. Always (except for Davis-Graves 670) with heavy crack through inner points of 6th and 7th stars, outer



petuts of 7th to tops of LIB. Rev. As last two. When available at all, usually poorly struck up. I have only seen one was Davis-Graves 679. Borderline R-7.

— 1807 —

Mintage 6812. Feb. 5. Only the one variety, so far as known; reverse same as 1805-06.

1. C-1; N-685. Stars 7+4. Stars widely spaced, and they look a trifle smaller than those on preceding years (probably lightly punched). Rev. As last. Comes without (Gouan call's) and with die crack through bases of date to first two stars, and another from 2nd to 6th stars, and a third through tops of LIBERTY. Often available in mint state and well struck up.

— 1808 —

Mintage 2710, Feb. 26. Only the one variety. New design, by John Reich after E. L. Persico; draped bust left, in mob-cap with LIBERTY on ribbon, this device (and the eagle with scroll and 2½D) adapted from that of the half-eagle of 1807 second design (the type of 1807-1812 inclusive). Since this design is found only on this date of quarter eagle and the date is rare, prices have gone into orbit, even exceeding the $700.

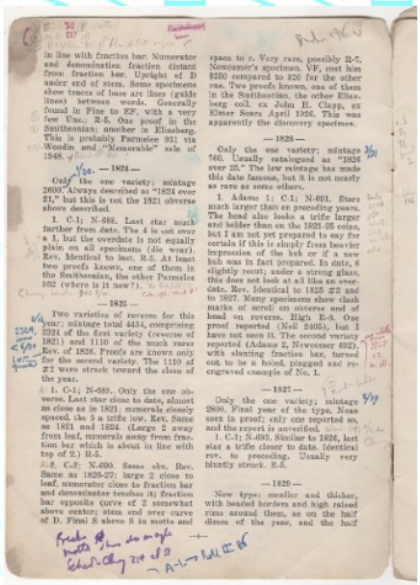
1. C-1; N-686. Only the one pair of dies. Small numerals in date, widely spaced. Usually shows crack from cap through all stars at right. Invariably weak at borders, especially on obverse, and usually with flat stars at right. Generally seen in Fine to EF condition, with a sprinkling of AU's; strictly mint coins are very seldom encountered, but often claimed thanks to dealers' propensities to exaggerate. For some reason the commonest grade for the 1808 is VF-EF with edge dents. Both the small mintage and the twelve-year interruption of the coinage and the undue rarity of this date require explanation, and none is at hand in the Archives. One can only guess. The denomination never was popular in the early years, particularly by com-

parison with the half-eagle, and quite possibly the interruption of the coinage came from express requests by banks to furnish gold only as half-eagles. Possibly the undistributed moiety of 1808 quarter-eagles went to the melting pot after the weight reduction of 1834, along with millions of dollars' face value in eagles and early half-eagles.

— 1821 —

Reduced size, but thicker coins; the weight remains the same as before. New designs, corresponding to the half-eagles of 1813-29. Only one die variety of this year. Mintage 6448, exclusive of the four proofs. Despite the comparatively large mintage, this date is rare, like the half-eagles of the eighteen twenties. Extensive meltings of gold of this period (as the most recent) is 1834 account for the inordinate rarity. After Congress reduced the weight of the half-eagle effective August 1, 1834, all "old issue" gold was worth more than its face value as mere bullion.

1. C-1; N-687. Last star nearer to date than to later dies of this design. Rev. U below base and line of NITED; final S in STATES above U in UNUM and space left. Large 2 distant from leaf, its right side under tip of arrow feather and about



in line with fraction bar. Numerator and denomination fraction distant from fraction bar. Upright of D under end of stem. Some specimens show traces of base are lines (guide lines) between words. Generally found in Fine to EF, with a very few Unc.; R-5. One proof in the Smithsonian; another in Eliasberg. This is probably Parmelee 921 via Woodin and "Memorable" sale of 1948.

— 1824 —

Only the one variety; mintage 2600. "Always described as "1824 over 21," but this is not the 1821 obverse above described.

1. C-1; N-688. Last star much farther from date. The 4 is cut over a 1, but the overdate is not equally plain on all specimens (die wear). Rev. Identical to last. R-5. At least two proofs known, one of them in the Smithsonian, the other Parmelee 102 (where is it now?).

— 1825 —

Two varieties of reverse for this year; mintage total 4434, comprising 3224 of the first variety (reverse of 1821) and 1110 of the much rarer Rev. of 1826. Proofs are known only for the second variety. The 1110 of #2 were struck toward the close of the year.

1. C-1; N-689. Only the one obverse. Last star close to date, almost as close as in 1821; numerals closely spaced, the 5 a trifle low. Rev. Same as 1821 and 1824. (Large 2 away from leaf, numerals away from fraction bar which is about in line with top of 2.) R-5.

2. C-2; N-690. Same obv. Rev. Same as 1825-27: large 2 close to leaf, numerator close to fraction bar and denominator touches it; fraction bar opposite curve of 2 somewhat above center; stem and over curve of D. Final S above S in motto and

space to r. Very rare, possibly R-7. Newcomer's specimen, VF, cost him $250 compared to $26 for the other one. Two proofs known, one of them in the Smithsonian, the other Eliasberg coll. ex John H. Clapp, ex Elmer Sears April 1926. This was apparently the discovery specimen.

— 1826 —

Only the one variety; mintage 760. Usually catalogued as "1826 over 25." The low mintage has made this date famous, but it is not nearly as rare as some others.

1. Adams 1; C-1; N-691. Stars much larger than on preceding years. The head also looks a trifle larger and bolder than on the 1821-25 coins, but I am not yet prepared to say for certain if this is simply from heavier impression of the hub or if a new hub was in fact prepared. In date, 6 slightly recut; under a strong glass, this does not look at all like an overdate. Rev. Identical to 1825 #2 and to 1827. Many specimens show clash marks of scroll on obverse and of head on reverse. High R-5. One proof reported (Neil 2405), but I have not seen it. The second variety reported (Adams 2, Newcomer 892), with slanting fraction bar, turned out to be a hoard, plugged and re-engraved example of No. 1.

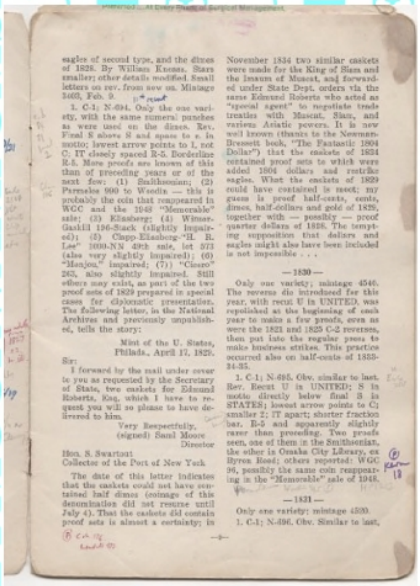
— 1827 —

Only the one variety; mintage 2836. Final year of the type. Nose seen in proof; only one reported so, and the report is unverified.

1. C-1; N-691. Similar to 1826, last star a trifle closer to date. Identical rev. to preceding. Usually very bluntly struck. R-5.

— 1828 —

New type: smaller and thicker, with beaded borders and high raised rims around them, as on the half dimes of the year, and the half



eagles of second type, and the dimes of 1828. By William Kneass. Stars smaller; other details modified. Small letters on rev. from new on. Mintage 3403, Feb. 9.

1. C-1; N-694. Only the one variety, with the same numeral punches as were used on the dimes. Rev. Final S above S and space to r. is motto; lowest arrow points to I, not C; IT closely spaced R-5. Borderline R-5. More proofs are known of this than of preceding years or of the next few: (1) Smithsonian; (2) Parmelee 900 to Woodin — this is probably the coin that reappeared in WCC and the 1948 "Memorable" sale; (3) Eliasberg; (4) Wimes-Gaskill 1246-Stack (slightly impaired); (5) Clapp-Eliasberg-"H. R. Lee" 1000-NN 49th sale, lot 573 (also very slightly impaired); (6) "Menjou," impaired; (7)) "Cicero" 265, also slightly impaired. Still others may exist, as part of the two proof sets of 1829 prepared in special cases for diplomatic presentation. The following letter, in the National Archives and previously unpublished, tells the story:

Mint of the U. States,
Philada., April 17, 1829.

Sir:

I forward by the mail under cover to you as requested by the Secretary of State, two caskets for Edmund Roberts, Esq. which I have to request you will so please to have delivered to him.

Very Respectfully,
(signed) Saml Moore
Director

Hon. S. Swartout
Collector of the Port of New York

The date of this letter indicates that the caskets could not have contained half dimes (coinage of this denomination did not resume until July 4). That the caskets did contain proof sets is almost a certainty; in November 1834 two similar caskets were made for the King of Siam and the Imaum of Muscat, and forwarded under State Dept. orders via the same Edmund Roberts who acted as "special agent" to negotiate trade treaties with Muscat, Siam, and various Asiatic powers. It is now well known (thanks to the Newman-Bressett book, "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar") that the caskets of 1834 contained proof sets to which were added dollars and restruck eagles. What the caskets of 1829 could have contained is moot; my guess is proof half-cents, cents, dimes, half-dollars and gold of 1829, together with — possibly — proof quarter dollars of 1828. The tempting supposition that dollars and eagles might also have been included is not impossible . . .

— 1830 —

Only one variety; mintage 4546. The reverse die introduced for this year, with recut U in UNITED, was regilded at the beginning of each year to make a few proofs, even as were the 1821 and 1825 C-2 reverses, then put into the regular years to make business strikes. This practice occurred also on half-cents of 1833-34-35.

1. C-1; N-695. Obv. similar to last. Rev. Recut U in UNITED; S is inside directly below final S in STATES; lowest arrow points to C; smaller 2; IT apart; shorter fraction bar. R-5 and apparently slightly rarer than preceding. Two proofs seen, one of them in the Smithsonian, the other in Omaha City Library, ex Byron Reed; others reported: WCC 96, possibly the same coin reappearing in the "Memorable" sale of 1948.

— 1831 —

Only one variety; mintage 4520.

1. C-1; N-696. Obv. Similar to last,



but star farther from bust. Rev. same die as preceding. R-5. I have seen two proofs (Smithsonian and Parmelee-Woodin-"Memorable") and heard of two others. One also exists in silver from the same dies and with reeded edge. This is Adams-Woodin 39, Judd 49. The purpose of this piece is unknown.

— 1832 —

Only one variety; mintage 4430. Kneass introduces in this year a modified head in higher relief. There are also noticeable differences in the curls from 1829-31 coins; they are plainest above the date and below LIBE, but are very difficult to describe.

1. C-1; N-697. Modified head. Two stars touch cap. Rev. Identical to last. R-5. The only proofs reported: "Memorable," 1948, hairsnicked, and one other of unknown pedigree. I have seen neither one.

— 1833 —

Only one variety; mintage 4160. Type of preceding, from the new head punch of 1832.

1. C-1; N-698. Stars extremely close to border and not evenly spaced; first very distant from bust, 6th over top of cap, 13th practically touches curl. Date from the dime punches, 3's much imperfect 3's (knobs joined). Rev. Identical to last. R-5. Proofs: (1) Mint-Smithsonian; (2) Eliasberg, ex Parmelee-Woodin and "Memorable,"; (3) The former Stack specimen. Two others reported.

Though it is impossible to know whether the coins referred to were dated 1831, 32 or 33, there were six experimental pieces struck and distinguished by one to six minute points fingerprint above the eagle's head; they are identifiable by color and weight, if indeed any survive.

These six specimens are as follows:

1. Pure gold, unalloyed. Wt. 61.875 grains.

2. Gold alloyed with silver only: wt. 67.5 grains standard (61.875 gr. gold, 5.625 gr. silver). This is pale compared with the regular issue.

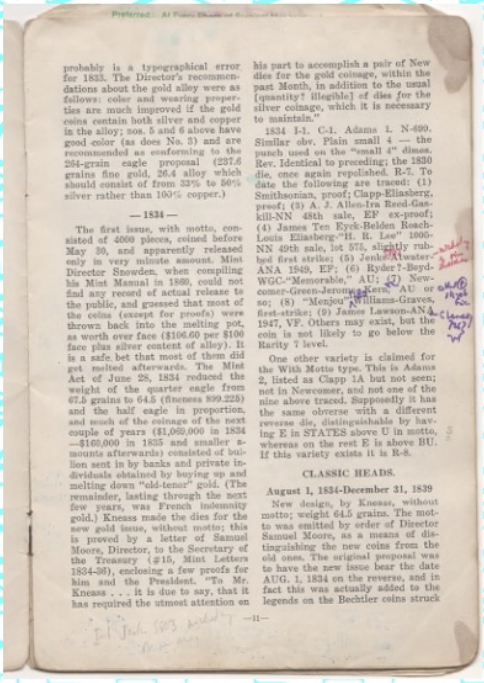
3. Gold alloyed with equal parts of silver and copper, i.e. 67.5 grains total—61.875 gold, 2.8125 gr. silver, 2.8125 copper.

4. Gold alloyed with copper only: wt. 67.5 grains, proportioned as in No. 2. This is reddish compared with the regular issue.

5. Gold alloyed with equal parts of silver and copper, in weight conforming to the Director's new proposal. Wt., 66 grains total—59.4 gold, 3.3 silver, 3.3 copper.

6. Gold alloyed as in No. 5 but with twice as much copper as silver: 66 grains total—59.4 gold, 2.2 silver, 4.4 copper.

The above specimens were sent to the Congressional committee studying coinage reform proposals, and the accompanying letter (partly quoted in Judd, page 20) is from the Congressional papers, 18th Congress, 1st Session, Serial Set 254-8: Special Report of the Director of the Mint, prepared Dec. 2, 1833 and submitted the following day, pursuant to Committee resolution of the preceding March 1. In this lengthy report, the Director recommended a change from the 15:1 ratio to 15.625 to 1, by reducing the amount of gold compared to alloy; a seigniorage charge on coining bullion; a charge on certain assays; reforms in the percentage of error permitted in assays; establishment of the legal weight of the copper cent as 168 grains by law rather than by presidential order, and allowing it legal tender status up to 10c. In this document the letter is dated "January 11, 1832," which



probably is a typographical error for 1833. The Director's recommendations about the gold alloy were as follows: color and wearing properties are much improved if the gold coins contain both silver and copper in the alloy; nos. 5 and 6 above have good color (as does No. 3) and are recommended as conforming to the 254-grain eagle proposal (237.6 grains fine gold, 26.4 alloy which should consist of from 33% to 50% silver rather than 100% copper.)

— 1834 —

The first issue, with motto, consisted of 4000 pieces, coined before May 30, and apparently released only in very minute amount. Mint Director Snowden, when compiling his Mint Manual in 1860, could not find any record of actual release to the public, and guessed that most of the coins (except for proofs) were thrown back into the melting pot, as worth over face ($106.60 per $100 face plus silver content of alloy). It is a safe bet that most of them did get melted afterwards. The Mint Act of June 28, 1834 reduced the weight of the quarter eagle from 67.5 grains to 64.5 (fineness 899.225) and the half eagle in proportion, and much of the coinage of the next couple of years ($1,060,909 in 1834 —$160,000 in 1835 and smaller amounts afterwards) consisted of bullion sent in by banks and private individuals obtained by buying up and melting down "old-tenor" gold. (The remainder, lasting through the next few years, was French indemnity gold.) Kneass made the dies for the new gold issue, without motto; this is proved by a letter of Samuel Moore, Director, to the Secretary of the Treasury (#15, Mint Letters 1834-36), enclosing a few proofs for him and the President. "To Mr. Kneass . . . it is due to say, that it has required the utmost attention on his part to accomplish a pair of New dies for the gold coinage, within the past Month, in addition to the usual [quantity? Illegible] of dies for the silver coinage, which it is necessary to maintain."

1834 I-1. C-1. Adams 1. N-699. Similar obv. Plain small 4 — the punch used on the "small 4" dimes. Rev. Identical to preceding; the 1830 die, once again repolished. R-7. To date the following are traced: (1) Smithsonian, proof; Clapp-Eliasberg, proof; (3) A. J. Allen-Ira Reed-Gankill-NN 48th sale, EF ex-proof; (4) James Ten Eyck-Belden Roach-Louis Eliasberg-"H. R. Lee" 1000-NN 49th sale, lot 575, slightly rubbed first strike; (5) Jenks-Atwater-ANA 1949, EF; (6) Ryder?-Boyd-WGC-"Memorable," AU; (7) Newcomer-Green-Jerome Kern, AU or so; (8) "Menjou"-Williams-Graves, first-strike; (9) James Lawson-ANA 1947, VF. Others may exist, but the coin is not likely to go below the Rarity 7 level.

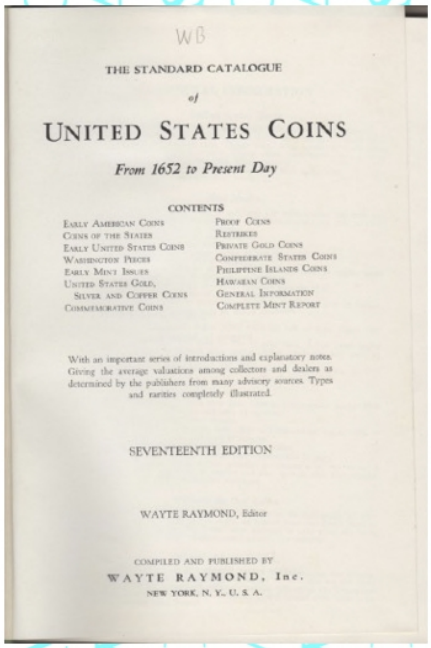
One other variety is claimed for the With Motto type. This is Adams 2, listed as Clapp 1A but not seen; not in Newcomer, and not one of the nine above traced. Supposedly it has the same obverse with a different reverse die, distinguishable by having E in STATES above U in motto, whereas on the rest E is above BU. If this variety exists it is R-8.

CLASSIC HEADS.

August 1, 1834-December 31, 1839

New design, by Kneass, without motto; weight 64.5 grains. The motto was emitted by order of Director Samuel Moore, as a means of distinguishing the new coins from the old ones. The original proposal was to have the new issue bear the date AUG. 1, 1834 on the reverse, and in fact this was actually added to the legends on the Bechtler coins struck

Continued in Volume #2 QE 1834-9.



WB

THE STANDARD CATALOGUE

of

UNITED STATES COINS

From 1652 to Present Day

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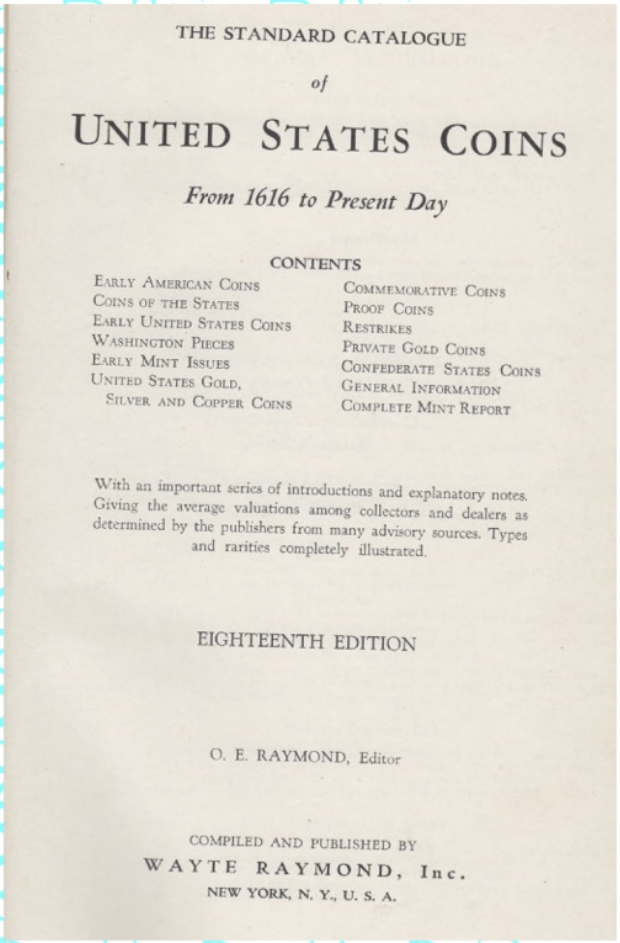
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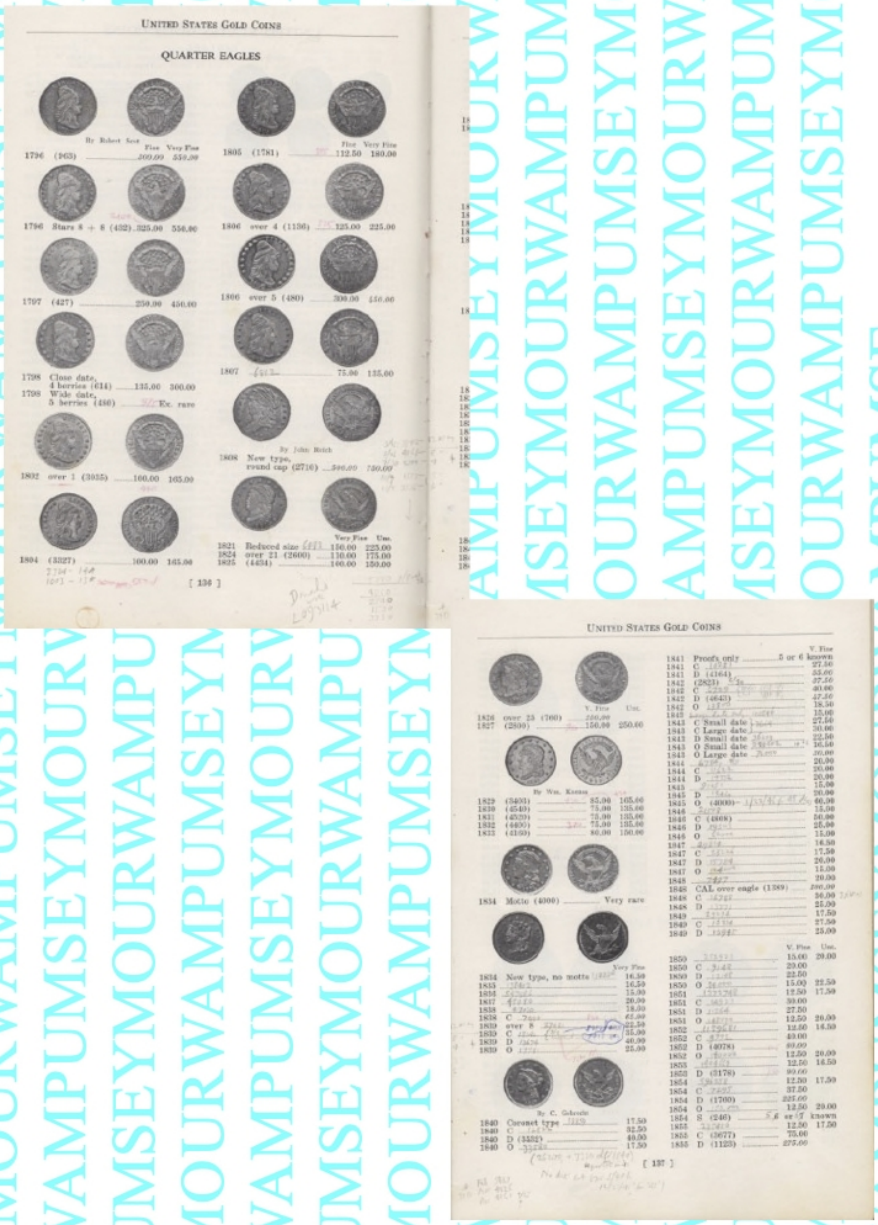
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UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

QUARTER EAGLES

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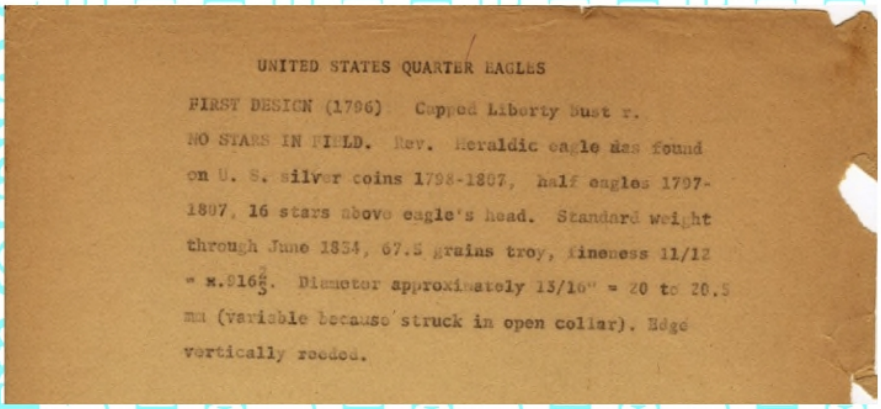
UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

[137]

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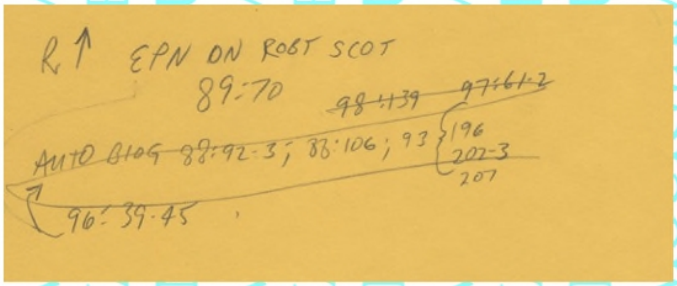
Introduction

This U.S. gold coin doctrine is compiled from a set of manuscripts (ms) written by Walter Breen beginning in 1948-50. There are at least 5 versions, some dates have a dozen additions, corrections and overwrites. There are thousands of photographs; auction catalogs—most written by WB—numerous notebooks (NB), almost 150 accumulated over a 45 year period employed as source material. There will always be more information not included herein, however this is a proper beginning.



UNITED STATES QUARTER EAGLES

FIRST DESIGN (1796) Capped Liberty Bust r.
NO STARS IN FIELD. Rev. Heraldic eagle as found on U. S. silver coins 1798-1807, half eagles 1797-1807, 16 stars above eagle's head. Standard weight through June 1834, 67.5 grains troy, fineness 11/12 = .916⅔. Diameter approximately 13/16" = 20 to 20.5 mm (variable because struck in open collar). Edge vertically reeded.



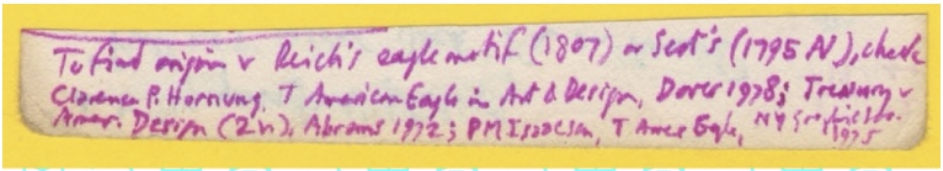
R↑ EPN ON ROBT SCOT
89:70
98:139 97:61-2
AUTO BIOG 89:92-3; 88:106; 93 {196 202-3 207
96:39-45

Quarter Eagles authorized by "Statute One" the Mint Act of April 2, 1792. Entered into dies by Scot, possibly the designer also [Hilt {1980} believes possibly with John Smith Gardner's assistance]. The first precious-metal coin without stars issued for circulation by the USA prior to 1836. The obverse copies the 1795 Half-eagle. The cap is not the Pilleus or Phygian or Liberty cap, which was given to newly freed slaves (and POW's) to hide the short haircuts maintained on slaves. The founding fathers would be able to look into their fields and inventory their slaves by no head hair, also short hair cuts to prevent/expose runaways. See also Half-Eagle book for more on this

subject. The exact prototype of the obverse is unknown. We are sure Mint Director Moore identified this cap as a high-fashion headdress of the 1790's. The Liberty cap employed the shape of a half eggshell, symbolizing its wearer as a chick emerging from captivity. Its nearest relative is the mobcap in some portraits of Martha Washington. The eagle on the reverse is that of the Great Seal of the U.S., (1782). Scot was the Engraver of the Great Seal as per Alexander Lawson (1773-1846). The quarter eagle was the first to show it (the Half-Eagles with heraldic design were probably struck in 1797 or 1798) [BV verify]. The quarter-eagle's reverse began what was to become the standard of all silver and gold denominations. Of interest is that the reverse of this coin was the first to show 16 star reverse, the extra star was Tennessee's admission to the Union. There is not yet documented proof that presentation sets were given at the admission on June 1, 1796. All denominations of 1796 in presentation (not proof) are known except the Half-Cent and Half-Eagle. This reverse has some differences you should be aware of: Of importance are the eagles claws, the arrows in the right claw or dexter (observers left) and olive in the left or sinister (observers right) are in reverse. This means the arrows of war outrank the olive of peace. It was later changed to the correct sides. Also the shield is different than on other coins. The eagle-and-clouds punch used in 1796-97 has 16 stripes to shield, representing red by eight solid bars (raised on coin), rather than vertically shaded as later.

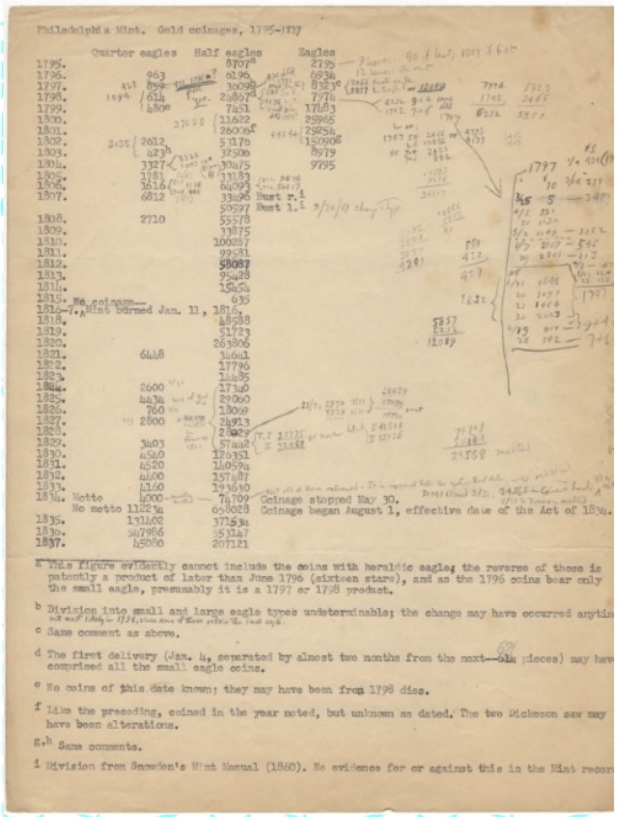
Not including presentation pieces, the first batches for circulation were from one obverse and two reverse dies. Pursuant to Warrants 75 and 77, the [66] of September 22 and the [897] of December 8 went to the Bank of the United States. This variety, says Hilt are his variety 2-A (four known): arrows extended well beyond N, first s and F very close to wings, indentations between clouds are directly below upright of T(A) and left of curve of O; always with vertical crack from rim through E(S) down through head, shield and tail. Discovered by Harry Bass. The others (Hilt 2-B) have lump at wingtip almost touching F, and the cloud fringes are left of upright of T(A) and well to right of center of O; obverse develops a crack from rim at 9:00. The presentation pieces are thought to have this latter reverse, un-cracked obverse: Mougey:114; Lusk:93 (?).

HB=Harry Bass, ANS-COAC 11/4-5/1989. HB 1-A obverse full bottom curls. Reverse star 1-2 almost [BV verify this word: almost, it may say slant] right; 5 berries. HB 1-B Is the coin ill. in Ency p.485 (ex JWGarrett:732). Obverse lapped, bottom curls weak. Late relapped, bottom curls now strands.



NB 8:21.

Research in the Archives (1951-2) worksheet below.



Philadelphia Mint. Gold coinages, 1795-1817

	Quarter eagles	Half eagles	Eagles
1795.		8707	2795
1796.	963	6196	6834
1797.	659	30098	8323[c]
1798.	614	24867	7771
1799.	1808	7451	17053
1800.		11622	25965
1801.		2600[d]	29254
1802.	2612	5178	150908
1803.	1423[b]	32508	8979
1804.	3327	37675	9795
1805.	1781	33183	
1806.	1616	64093	
1807.	6812	33498	Bust P.I
		50597	Bust I.I
1808.	2710	55578	
1809.		33875	
1810.		100287	
1811.		99581	
1812.		58087	
1813.		95428	
1814.		15454	
1815.	No coinage—	635	
1816-7.	Mint burned Jan. 11, 1816.		
1818.		48538	
1819.		51727	
1820.		263806	
1821.	6448	34641	
1822.		17796	
1823.		14485	
1824.	2600	17340	
1825.	4434	29060	
1826.	760	18069	
1827.	2800	24913	
1828.		28829	
1829.	3403	57482	
1830.	4540	126351	
1831.	4520	140594	
1832.	4400	157487	
1833.	5120	193640	
1834.	Motto 4000	74709	Coinage stopped May 30.
	No motto 11224	658028	Coinage began August 1, effective date of the Act of 1834.
1835.	131402	371534	
1836.	547956	553147	
1837.	45080	207121	

a This figure evidently cannot include the coins with heraldic eagle; the reverse of these is patently a product of later than June 1796 (sixteen stars), and as the 1796 coins bear only the small eagle, presumably it is a 1797 or 1798 product.

b Division into small and large eagle types undeterminable; the change may have occurred anytim

c Same comment as above.

d The first delivery (Jan. 4, separated by almost two months from the next--61[illegible] pieces) may hav comprised all the small eagle coins.

e No coins of this date known; they may have been from 1798 dies.

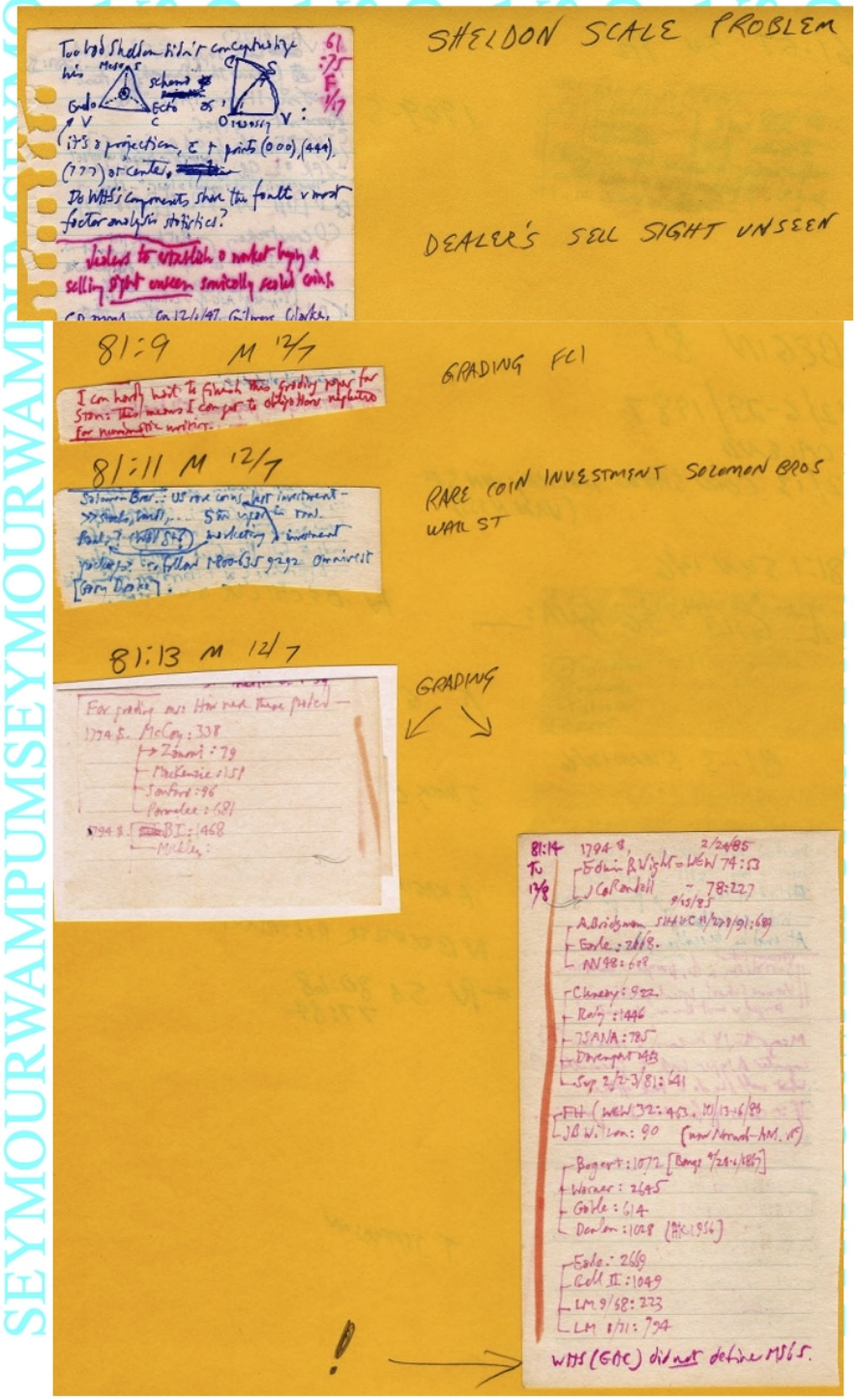
f Like the preceding, coined in the year noted, but unknown as dated. The two Dickeson saw may have been alterations.

g,h Same comments.

i Division from Snowden's Mint Manual (1860). No evidence for or against this in the Mint recor

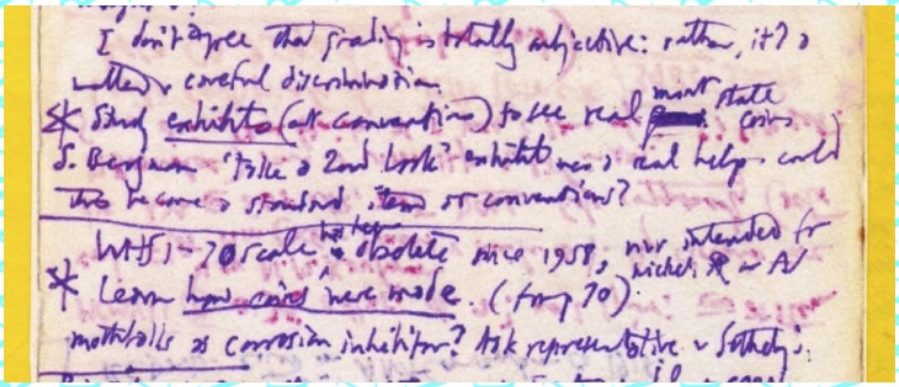
Misc. ms.:QE 1796-1827. Deviations from good centering, except in the 1802-07 period, are very rarely encountered and they are very slight even on the 1802-07 coins showing them. I have seen no significant irregularities of centering for the 1829-39 coinages.

Grading Standards



SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSE
URWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSE

Grade range: Very Good to Uncirculated.
Fine: Partial detail to eye, nose, mouth, wing feathers, horizontal shield lines; only outlines of drapery and outermost curls; motto complete but weak.
Very Fine: Partial folds of cap and drapery; all major outlines of locks show; partial detail to leaves and tail feathers.
Extremely Fine: Isolated tiny rubbed spots only; generally traces of prooflike surface.
Uncirculated: No trace of wear. [MS-64 & less!] See Numerical Grading in Glossary.
See 1808 for next type. —1829.
Survivors are usually F to EF, they are usually unevenly struck: hair near ear, temple and at lower part of cap; eagles neck, breast feathers, lower part of shield. Border dentils are often weak or incomplete, most of all at lower left and lower right obverse. Later impressions are often weak at E(RTY), possibly a problem with the die alignment as this letter is directly opposite the eagles tail which is another relief area. Genuine uncirculated pieces are prohibitively rare.


I don't agree that grading is totally subjective: rather, it? a rather careful discrimination. …WHS 1-70 has been obsolete since 1958, never intended for nickel, silver or gold…
NB 17:71.
NB 65:56 I've cat'd cons for > 30 years. T # grade system orig. based on price lvls for 1794 c[ent] later generalized, now standardized!

How coins are made, see gold Bibliography Dies and Coinage WB {1965}.

This study is compiled from WB's existing note database. There is information previously published that is not within the following volumes.
The co(i)n industry can be explained herein. Doctrin-a -ae are never complete due to vast mintages. In addition entropy in a closed system and disorder in concert with the Boltzman equation. Breen's notes are fragmented, assembled herein. He only wrote what he saw; reported means he did not see it & it was not verified. He trusted only his own eyes.

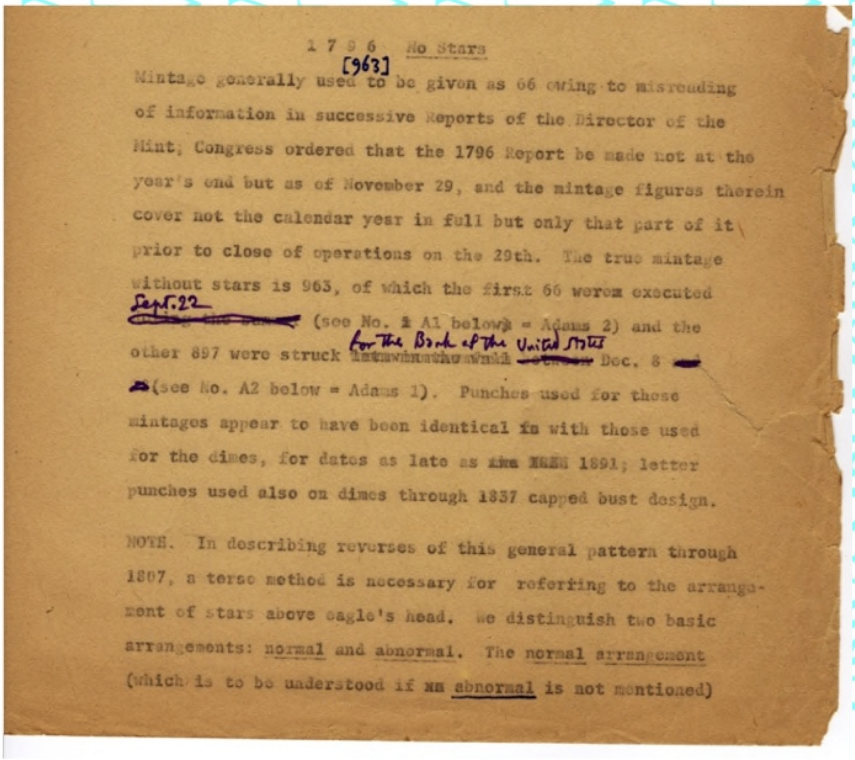
SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUM

1796

732 = HB 1-B
[66]



Breen 1, Clapp 1.
Warrant 75, Sept. 22. (Four known) arrows extend well beyond N, first S and F very close to wings, indentations between clouds are directly below upright of T(A) and left of curve of O; always with vertical crack from rim through E(S) down through head, shield and tail. Discovered by Harry Bass.
H.Bass Hilt 2A see scan below. NB 107:127.

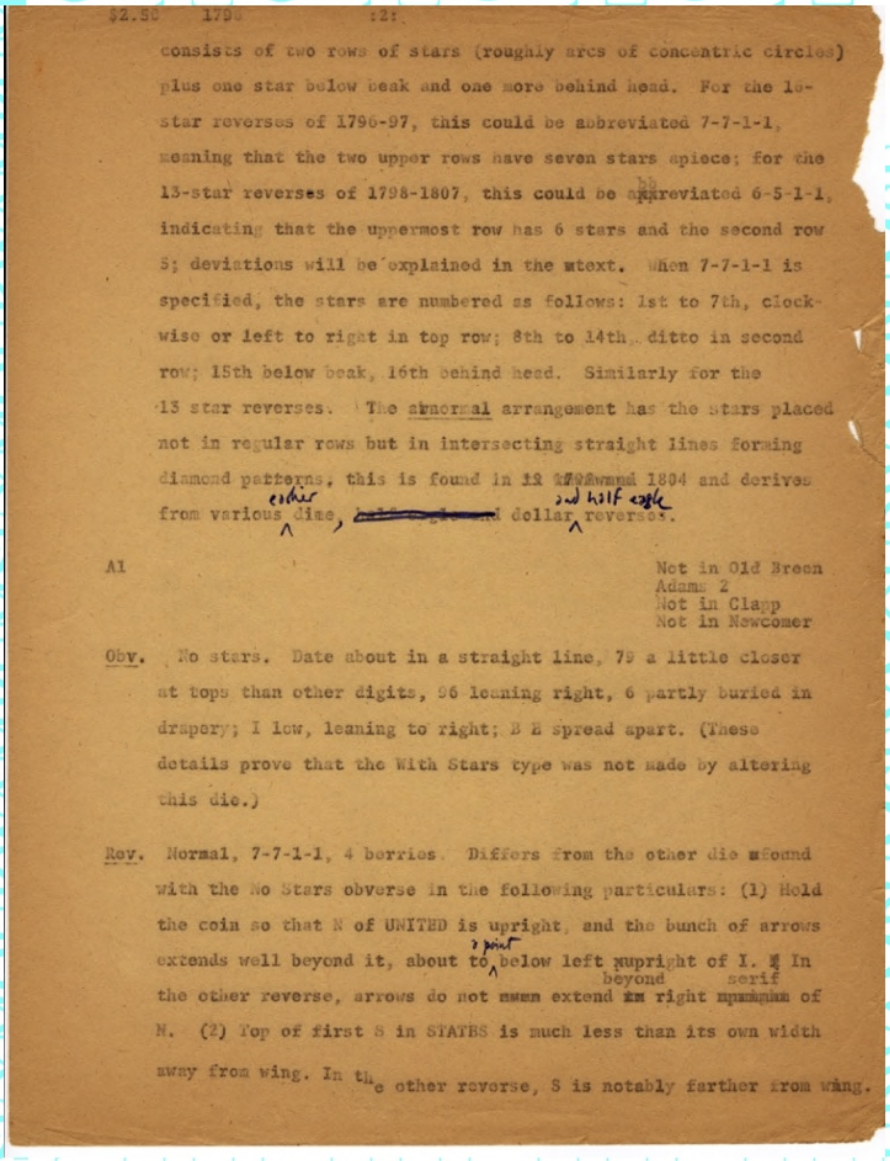


1796 No Stars
[963]
Mintage generally used to be given as 66 owing to misreading of information in successive Reports of the Director of the Mint; Congress ordered that the 1796 Report be made not at the year's end but as of November 29, and the mintage figures therein cover not the calendar year in full but only that part of it prior to close of operations on the 29th. The true mintage without stars is 963, of which the first 66 were executed Sept. 22 (see No. A1 below = Adams 2) and the other 897 were struck for the Bank of the United States Dec. 8 (see No. A2 below = Adams 1). Punches used for these mintages appear to have been identical in with those used for the dimes, for dates as late as 1891; letter punches used also on dimes through 1837 capped bust design.

NOTE. In describing reverses of this general pattern through 1807, a terse method is necessary for referring to the arrangement of stars above eagle's head. We distinguish two basic arrangements: normal and abnormal. The normal arrangement (which is to be understood if an abnormal is not mentioned)

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMO
URWAMPUMSEYMOURWA
MSEYMOURWAMPUMS

Presentation piece No Stars: Breen 1-A: Only one known. Earliest dies state. Struck probably Sept. 22, 1796 when the denomination was begun, some 66 that day & 897 more coined for Bank of the United States. This piece immediately identifiable by its proof surface & excellent striking characteristics: breast feathers above field sharp, stars & clouds all up, eagles' tail well struck up, curls well up.[See also **P** bk. ms.].



$2.50 1795 :2:

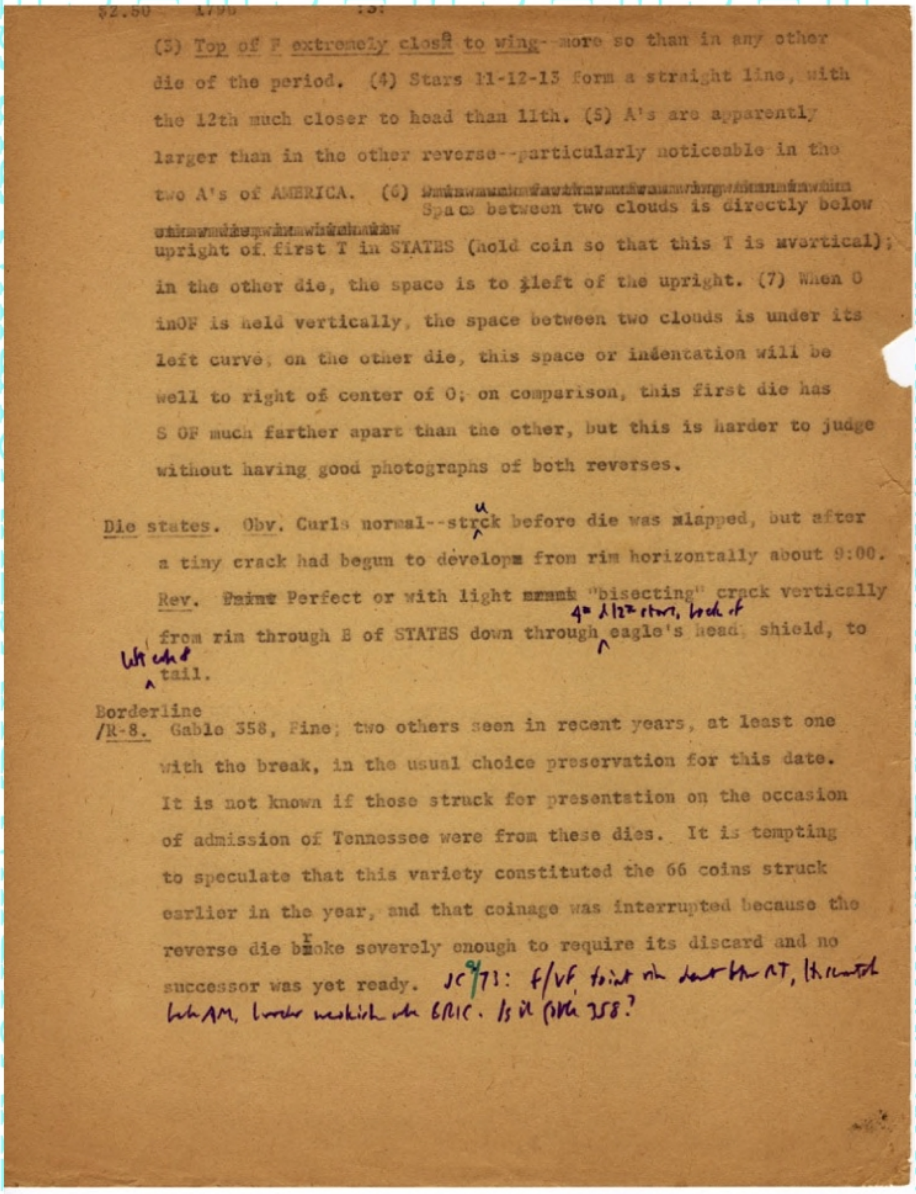
consists of two rows of stars (roughly arcs of concentric circles) plus one star below beak and one more behind head. For the 15-star reverses of 1796-97, this could be abbreviated 7-7-1-1, meaning that the two upper rows have seven stars apiece; for the 13-star reverses of 1798-1807, this could be abbreviated 6-5-1-1, indicating that the uppermost row has 6 stars and the second row 5; deviations will be explained in the text. When 7-7-1-1 is specified, the stars are numbered as follows: 1st to 7th, clockwise or left to right in top row; 8th to 14th, ditto in second row; 15th below beak, 16th behind head. Similarly for the 13 star reverses. The abnormal arrangement has the stars placed not in regular rows but in intersecting straight lines forming diamond patterns, this is found in 12 [illegible] and 1804 and derives from various dime, [illegible] dollar reverses.

A1 Not in Old Breen
Adams 2
Not in Clapp
Not in Newcomer

Obv. No stars. Date about in a straight line, 79 a little closer at tops than other digits, 96 leaning right, 6 partly buried in drapery; I low, leaning to right; S S spread apart. (These details prove that the With Stars type was not made by altering this die.)

Rev. Normal, 7-7-1-1, 4 berries. Differs from the other die found with the No Stars obverse in the following particulars: (1) Hold the coin so that N of UNITED is upright, and the bunch of arrows extends well beyond it, about to point below left upright of I. In the other reverse, arrows do not extend beyond right serif of N. (2) Top of first S in STATES is much less than its own width away from wing. In the other reverse, S is notably farther from wing.

Presentation pieces With Stars: Three seen in presentation piece form. One of these, Earl:2496; another went in the M.I. Cohen sale 1875, & may or may not be among the 3 seen by Breen. Cf. Maris:12 [1886]; Winter sale (1974), $33,000.. The production run began on Jan. 14, 1797, but the presentation pieces may have been made in Dec. 1796. Occasion, stars added.



$2.50 1796 13:

(3) Top of F extremely close to wing--more so than in any other die of the period. (4) Stars 11-12-13 form a straight line, with the 12th much closer to head than 11th. (5) A's are apparently larger than in the other reverse--particularly noticeable in the two A's of AMERICA. (6) [illegible] Space between two clouds is directly below upright of first T in STATES (hold coin so that this T is vertical); in the other die, the space is to left of the upright. (7) When O in OF is held vertically, the space between two clouds is under its left curve; on the other die, this space or indentation will be well to right of center of O; on comparison, this first die has S OF much farther apart than the other, but this is harder to judge without having good photographs of both reverses.

Die states. Obv. Curls normal--struck before die was lapped, but after a tiny crack had begun to develop from rim horizontally about 9:00. Rev. Perfect or with light "bisecting" crack vertically from rim through E of STATES down through eagle's head, shield, to tail.

Borderline
/R-8. Gable 358, Fine; two others seen in recent years, at least one with the break, in the usual choice preservation for this date. It is not known if those struck for presentation on the occasion of admission of Tennessee were from these dies. It is tempting to speculate that this variety constituted the 66 coins struck earlier in the year, and that coinage was interrupted because the reverse die broke severely enough to require its discard and no successor was yet ready. JC 9/71: f/VF, [illegible]





A2

Old 1
Adams 1
C-1; N-672

Obv. Same die as last, no stars.

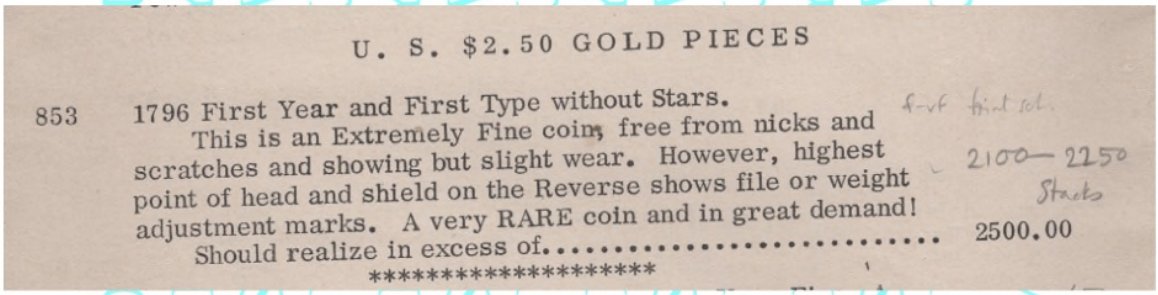
Rev. Similar. See description of A1 reverse; bunch of arrows extends only to right serif of N, not beyond it; S and F farther from wing though the F is close; no stars in second row form a straight line, and 12th is much farther from eagle's head than 11th as usual; spaces of indentations between clouds left of upright of T and right of center of O.

Die states. Obv. Small break horizontally at 9:00, varying from short and light to long and heavy, but none seen yet with it extending into cap or hair. Later impressions show that the die was lapped; lowest curl is now fragmentary. Melish 1997.

Low xR-6. Generally found from Fine-VF to AU, not over three with any claim to mint state. There are more of these than one would expect to find with only 897 minted (assuming that the other 66 were in fact A1's); this reflects the practice of saving specimens as the first of their kind. However, specimens of this and later years through 1807 are often misgraded in either direction. Because the eaglex's breast feathers above shield--the highest relief area of reverse--comes directly opposite central area of Ms. Liberty's curls, either or both these areas will seldom be found well struck up. Either this weakness is mistaken for wear and the coin is downgraded, or it is identified as weak striking and other areas of actual wear are attributed to the same cause so that the coin is upgraded. Whatever its grade, the 1796 is usually exaggerated in rarity claims whenever it appears at auction, usually because of the mint reports. I would estimate the surviving population without stars at between 15 and 20.

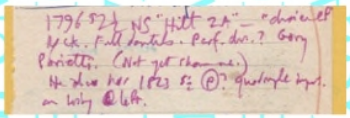
[897] Warrant 77 Dec. 8.
Lump at wingtip almost touching F, the cloud indentations are left of upright of T(A) and well to right of center of O; obverse develops a crack from rim at 9:00. Dunham, Eliasberg:79, EF, $26,000.

Real presentation pieces are thought to have this later reverse, uncracked obverse: Mougey:1144; Lusk:93 (?).

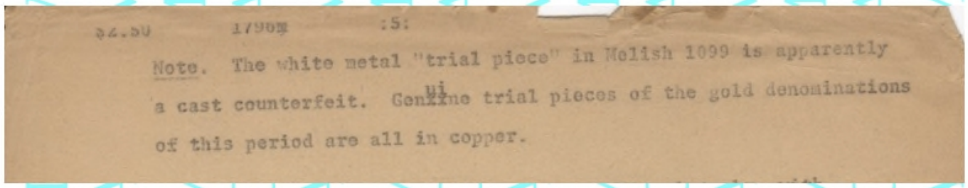


U. S. $2.50 GOLD PIECES

853 1796 First Year and First Type without Stars. f-vf faint rot.
This is an Extremely Fine coin, free from nicks and scratches and showing but slight wear. However, highest point of head and shield on the Reverse shows file or weight adjustment marks. A very RARE coin and in great demand! 2100—2250 Stacks
Should realize in excess of..... 2500.00
****



See Catalogs below. Breen annotation.
Garrett:732, AU, $125,000., Ed Hipps;
Dunham, Eliasberg:79, EF $26,400.; EF J.W.Scott, Holden, N:1931.
Three in S.I.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:984 "[…]with out stars[…]Heraldic[…]about Uncirculated[…]Reverse almost a proof[…]From the Curtis Sale[…]" $225.00.

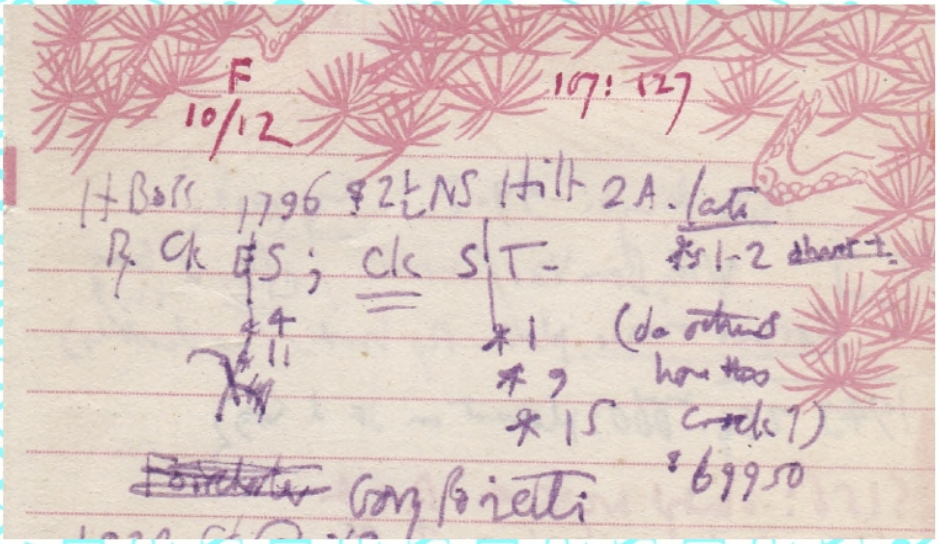


Note. The white metal "trial piece" in Melish 1099 is apparently a cast counterfeit. Genuine trial pieces of the gold denominations of this period are all in copper.

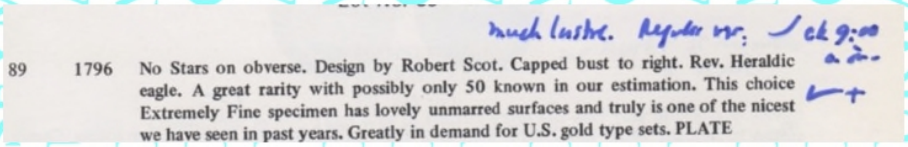
Note: The white metal "trial piece" in Melish:1099 is apparently a cast counterfeit. Genuine trial pieces of gold denominations of this period are all in copper.
JCM#311, 10/18/33: "[…]Without stars. Brilliant uncirculated[…]". $250.00. *Illustrated.* W. Raymond's copy [catalogued by WR(bidder #311)], to WB.

See important catalogs below for: Wayte Raymond's copy J.C. Morgenthau & Co., 278th sale, lot 213, […]without stars..EF, $50.00; lot 214, […]with stars[…]light scratch on obverse below bust[…]$65.00.

NB 107:127 No Stars Late.



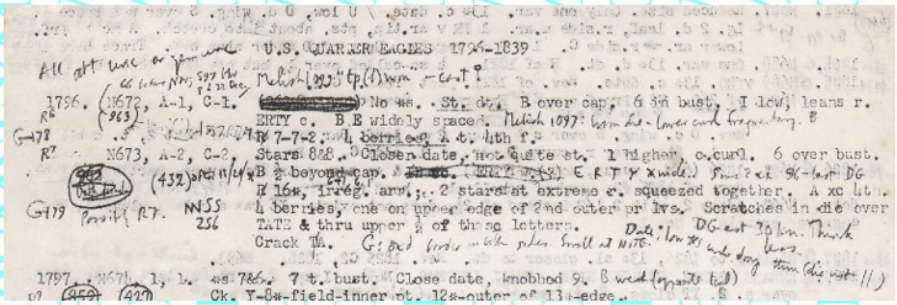
BMM 3/23/48:3484 "[…]with out stars[…]short light nick on lower obverse and a die nick below bust[…]." $210.00. BMM descriptions to be taken with caution. BMM A. Carter 10/55:84, 'VF'.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Annotations** WB.
See original manuscript in Bibliography below. For cautious use of E.H. Adams NB's. Other die markers.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1485.
See Catalogues below: CSNA 10/1960:853 for WB's annotated copy and remarks.
WB misc.: "'au' stk w/ foreign object blw chin into field". [no variety noted]


much lustre. Regular wr. / ck 9:00 a.m. +

89 1796 No Stars on obverse. Design by Robert Scot. Capped bust to right. Rev. Heraldic eagle. A great rarity with possibly only 50 known in our estimation. This choice Extremely Fine specimen has lovely unmarred surfaces and truly is one of the nicest we have seen in past years. Greatly in demand for U.S. gold type sets. PLATE

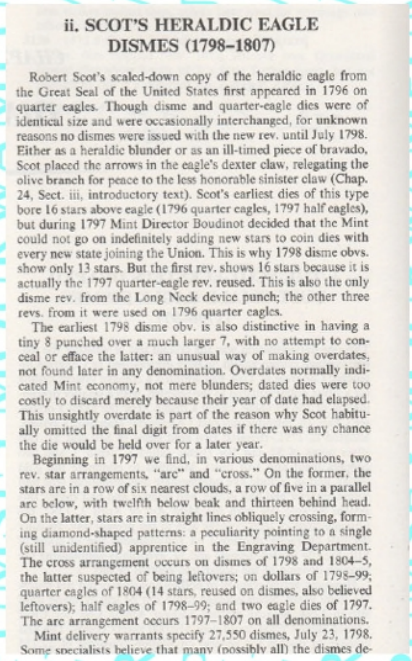
WB's annotated K 1/75:89 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.


U.S. QUARTER EAGLES 1796-1839

1796. (N672, A-1, C-1. No stars. St. dr. B over cap. 6 in bust. I low, leans r.
ERTY c. B E widely spaced.
7-7-2. 4 berries, 4 to 4th r.
N673, A-2, C-2, Stars 8&8. Closer date, not quite st. 1 higher, c.curl. 6 over bust.
B 2 beyond cap.
16s, irreg. arr.; 2 stars at extreme e. squeezed together. A xc lt.
4 berries, one on upper edge of 2nd outer pr lvs. Scratches in die over
TATE & thru upper 2 of these letters.
Crack TA.
1797. 1, b. 8s. 7 t. bust. Close date, knobbed 9. B weak (opposite bid)
Ck. Y-8s-field-inner pt. 12s-outer of 13s-edge.

Above B&W copy is superior to original color.


ii. SCOT'S HERALDIC EAGLE DISMES (1798–1807)

Robert Scot's scaled-down copy of the heraldic eagle from the Great Seal of the United States first appeared in 1796 on quarter eagles. Though disme and quarter-eagle dies were of identical size and were occasionally interchanged, for unknown reasons no dismes were issued with the new rev. until July 1798. Either as a heraldic blunder or as an ill-timed piece of bravado, Scot placed the arrows in the eagle's dexter claw, relegating the olive branch for peace to the less honorable sinister claw (Chap. 24, Sect. iii, introductory text). Scot's earliest dies of this type bore 16 stars above eagle (1796 quarter eagles, 1797 half eagles), but during 1797 Mint Director Boudinot decided that the Mint could not go on indefinitely adding new stars to coin dies with every new state joining the Union. This is why 1798 disme obvs. show only 13 stars. But the first rev. shows 16 stars because it is actually the 1797 quarter-eagle rev. reused. This is also the only disme rev. from the Long Neck device punch; the other three revs. from it were used on 1796 quarter eagles.

The earliest 1798 disme obv. is also distinctive in having a tiny 8 punched over a much larger 7, with no attempt to conceal or efface the latter: an unusual way of making overdates, not found later in any denomination. Overdates normally indicated Mint economy, not mere blunders; dated dies were too costly to discard merely because their year of date had elapsed. This unsightly overdate is part of the reason why Scot habitually omitted the final digit from dates if there was any chance the die would be held over for a later year.

Beginning in 1797 we find, in various denominations, two rev. star arrangements, "arc" and "cross." On the former, the stars are in a row of six nearest clouds, a row of five in a parallel arc below, with twelfth below beak and thirteen behind head. On the latter, stars are in straight lines obliquely crossing, forming diamond-shaped patterns: a peculiarity pointing to a single (still unidentified) apprentice in the Engraving Department. The cross arrangement occurs on dismes of 1798 and 1804–5, the latter suspected of being leftovers; on dollars of 1798–99; quarter eagles of 1804 (14 stars, reused on dismes, also believed leftovers); half eagles of 1798–99; and two eagle dies of 1797. The arc arrangement occurs 1797–1807 on all denominations.

Mint delivery warrants specify 27,550 dismes, July 23, 1798. Some specialists believe that many (possibly all) the dismes de-

Disme rev. employed.

WB's annot. copy Ency. above for historical purposes only. See 1804 14* below.

1796 With Stars

Stars 8 + 8. [432]
HB 1-A. Breen 2, C-2.
Garrett:733. Hilt 1-C.





SECOND DESIGN (1796-1807): As preceding, but obv. with stars at borders. In 1796 only we find ~~xxx~~ sixteen stars, arranged 8 + 8. It became quickly apparent that the Mint could no longer continue to add a new star for each state, and so in 1797 and later years through 1807 themm coin dies bear only the original 13. There are three distinct arrangements, apparently not due to error:

(1) 7 + 6 (i.e. 7 left, 6 right). 1797, 1805, 1806/5, 1807.

(2) 6 + 7. Found only on 1798, both mdies.

(3) 8 + 5. 1802, 1804, 1806/4.

Reverses are as preceding, but again beginning in 1798 there are only thirteen stars above eagle.

1 7 ~~9~~ 6 With Stars

[432], Jan. 14, 1797]

B1. Old 2
A-3, C-2, W-673

Obv. Stars 8 + 8. Not altered from the No Stars die; E R T Y are widely spaced, date much more closely spaced and well curved, the 1 higher, and all of 6 visible though its top is punched in over drapery.

Rev. Irregular arrangement of stars--not abnormal, and evidently intended as normal but mismade: 7-6-1-0 with the two extras crowded in at extreme right, one partly buried in wing, the other directly above it. One of the 4 berries is partly merged in upper edge of a leaf. A does not quite touch 4th feather. Heavy die





Clapp, Eliasberg:80, AU, $26,400.





Note letter positions.



file marks through TATE (upper halves and above letters).

Die states. At first perfect. Sometimes normally struck, sometimes with dies not in parallel planes, producing weakness at date, drapery, lower curls and lower left stars. Later, fine die cracks develop through date: bases of 17, middle of 796; ~~mmm~~ crack through all stars at right, all obv wh appear by. Still later (Gaskill 179), heavy clash marks near borders on both sides, and reverse die is giving way at NITE, producing a bulge on the coin.

R-6, high--probably should be called borderline R-7. ~~Thrmmmr~~ Four or five ~~mmm~~ brilliant mint state pieces, prooflike. Mar 12 2496 (possibly lot 182, Mendes I. from ~~mmm~~/Cohen sale of 1875) and Maris 12 (1886) appear to qualify as true presentation pieces, struck from brilliantly polished dies on brilliantly polished blanks, carefully centered, possibly even given an extra blow as with true proofs to bring out full design details, and caught in a chamois on ejection from the press to avoid abrasion. The occasion is likely to have been the new type. Others known range from Fine to AU, most commonly EF or better.







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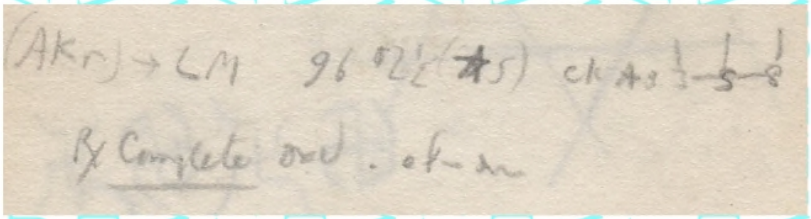
854 1796 Second Variety - 16 Stars on Obverse. Very Fine. A well struck specimen showing very little wear. Coin has a very fine evely pitted surface. Excessively RARE! Should realize 2000.00

1600 - 1650

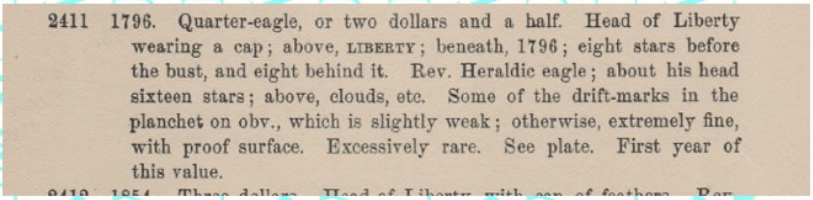
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CSNA 10/1960:854 above.

NB:WBV#6 p. 4 See Artryfact below. Early cracked die.



See Catalogs below. Breen annotation.
Judd 3rd: Quarter Eagle. Obverse: Regular die with stars, white metal. (2) White metal 69.9 grains, probably J.L.Mickley in 1860's, rusty dies.
Bullion Journal A page 72: 1 QE reserved for assay. 47: Nov. 19, 1796. '[…]Rec'd[…]31 July to 30 Sept. 1796[…].'
Possibly five proof-like presentation strikings survive; Winter:495, $33,000 (1974); Auction 84:1365, $74,250.
Probably fewer than 30 business strikes survive.
The die variety of Warrant 82 of Feb. 28, 1797 of 98 pieces remains impossible to prove acto Breen, see Hilt.
Most survivors are VF to EF. Caution: near mint state proof-like examples do not show exceptional details of the presentation strikings.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:985 "[…]with stars[…]obverse is Very Fine[…]Reverse is Extremely Fine[…].This is the Benton specimen[…]." $200.00.
BMM A.Carter10/55:85 no grade.
See original ms. in Bibliography below for cautious use of E.H. Adams NB's and additional die markers.



2411 1796. Quarter-eagle, or two dollars and a half. Head of Liberty wearing a cap; above, LIBERTY; beneath, 1796; eight stars before the bust, and eight behind it. Rev. Heraldic eagle; about his head sixteen stars; above, clouds, etc. Some of the drift-marks in the planchet on obv., which is slightly weak; otherwise, extremely fine, with proof surface. Excessively rare. See plate. First year of this value.

SH& H Chapman Bushnell Estate 6/1882:2411 $32.00.

1797

Stars 7 + 6. As per Boudinot's order. Rev. must have been made in 1796, as it shows 16 stars randomly scattered above head.
[427]



Ill., notable all have die crack Y in LIBERTY star 8, through field to 12th and 13th stars to border.

1 7 9 7

[427]

1.

Old 1
A-1, C-1, N674

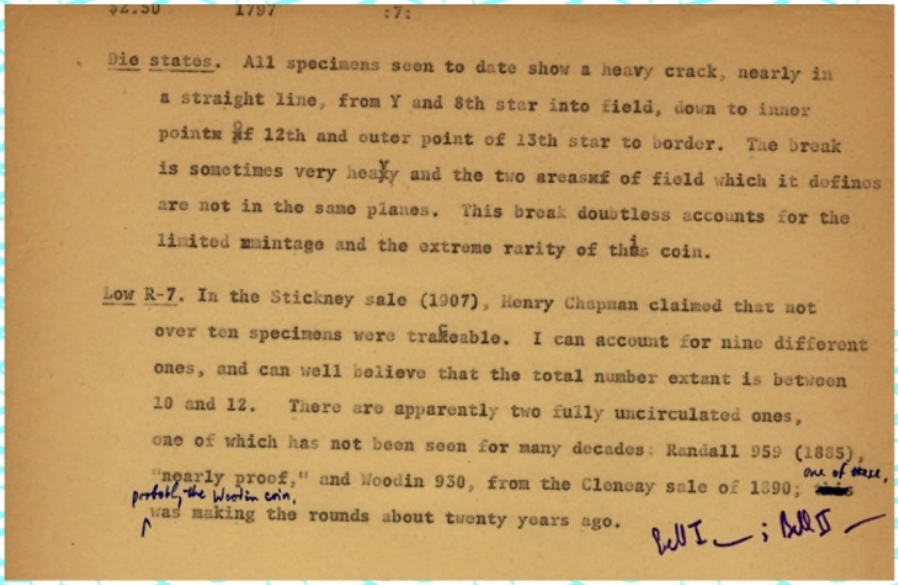
Obv. Same type but stars 7 + 6. Numerals closely spaced, final 7 touching drapery. The 9 is knobbed, as on the last dimes of the year (the 13-star obverse). 9 usually weak. Identifiable even if without legible date by the die break (see below).

Rev. Normal, 7-7-1-1, but this is not the same as any of the 1796 reverses. Three stars before beak (8th, 9th, 10th) squeezed too close together. Spur from 3rd feather points toward first A (not constant). AMERICA. Usually weak on shield.



Ill. is Breen 1, C-1

Mintage figures from archives: Feb. 28 [98], March 14 [128], June 29, 1797 [201].



$2.50 1797 :7:

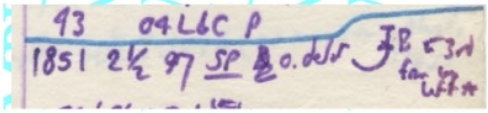
Die states. All specimens seen to date show a heavy crack, nearly in a straight line, from Y and 8th star into field, down to inner point of 12th and outer point of 13th star to border. The break is sometimes very heavy and the two areas of field which it defines are not in the same planes. This break doubtless accounts for the limited mintage and the extreme rarity of this coin.

Low R-7. In the Stickney sale (1907), Henry Chapman claimed that not over ten specimens were traceable. I can account for nine different ones, and can well believe that the total number extant is between 10 and 12. There are apparently two fully uncirculated ones, one of which has not been seen for many decades: Randall 959 (1885), "nearly proof," and Woodin 930, from the Cleneay sale of 1890; [redacted] was making the rounds about twenty years ago.

probably the Woodin coin. one of these,

Bell I ; Bell II

Hilt 5-D. Reverse reused on 1798/7 disme.
Usually in VF; Spedding, Clapp Eliasberg:81, EF, $12,100; Auction 80:886, AU, $34,000. Bell II:77, "Gem Unc." (not seen by Breen) and 1970 ANA:1424, said to be proof-like, may be the finest. Dupont, Lilly, S.I.; Mint, S.I. J.W.Garrett:737 is HB 1-A.
Hilt thinks the [585] between 3/14/1797 and 1/11/1798 bore this date. Warrants 83, 93, and 102.
Hilt thinks the first were dated 1796, the other two deliveries plus [256] of Jan. 11, 1798, were all the 1797's.
Possibly 20 survive, mostly VF; prohibitively rare in mint state. Concerning the numerous coins called AU in auction records, these possibly represent 4 specimens playing 'Musical Chairs' for many decades; 2 or 3 others are optimistically graded. One certain pedigree:
J.J.Mickley, W.E.Woodward. H.P.Newlin, Garrett, 'AU'.

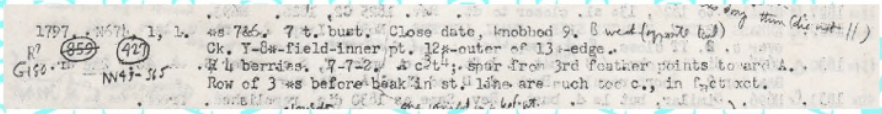


93 04 L&C P
1851 2½ 97 SP ½0.00/s JB 5-D far left*

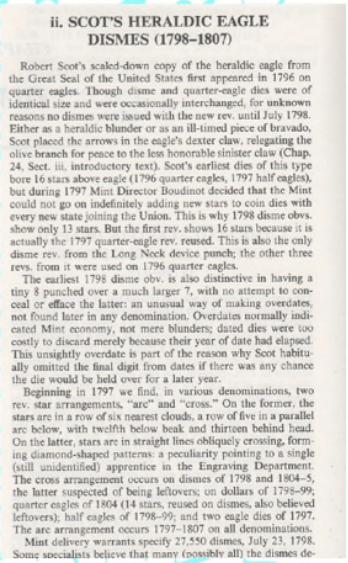
BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1851 Semi-Prooflike Obv. defect bases IB to 3rd far top left star. See Artytfact. Misc. AV notes p.12. BMM A.Carter 10/55:86 'Semi-proof.'

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:986 "[…]Strictly very fine[…]." $240.00.
JCM#311, 10/18/33:141 "Usual obverse die break. Extremely fine. A very great rarity and the first time offered in many years. *Illustrated*." $400.00.
See Catalogues below S Smith 5/55:1486.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below. = ? WB.
Numismatic Gallery 1/2/1953 to Norweb; B-1 'VF'.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.


1797 . . . 1, 1. as 786. 7 t. bust. Close date, knobbed 9. B wed (points to)
Ck. Y-8#-field-inner pt. 12#-outer of 13-edge.
4 berries. 7-7-2, 2 cst's; spar from 3rd feather points toward A.
Row of 3 as before beak in st. line are such too c., in fact xct.

B&W copy above is superior in quality to color original.


ii. SCOT'S HERALDIC EAGLE DISMES (1798–1807)

Robert Scot's scaled-down copy of the heraldic eagle from the Great Seal of the United States first appeared in 1796 on quarter eagles. Though disme and quarter-eagle dies were of identical size and were occasionally interchanged, for unknown reasons no dismes were issued with the new rev. until July 1798. Either as a heraldic blunder or as an ill-timed piece of bravado, Scot placed the arrows in the eagle's dexter claw, relegating the olive branch for pence to the less honorable sinister claw (Chap. 24, Sect. iii, introductory text). Scot's earliest dies of this type bore 16 stars above eagle (1796 quarter eagles, 1797 half eagles), but during 1797 Mint Director Boudinot decided that the Mint could not go on indefinitely adding new stars to coin dies with every new state joining the Union. This is why 1798 disme obvs. show only 13 stars. But the first rev. shows 16 stars because it is actually the 1797 quarter-eagle rev. reused. This is also the only disme rev. from the Long Neck device punch; the other three revs. from it were used on 1796 quarter eagles.

The earliest 1798 disme obv. is also distinctive in having a tiny 8 punched over a much larger 7, with no attempt to conceal or efface the latter: an unusual way of making overdates, not found later in any denomination. Overdates normally indicated Mint economy, not mere blunders; dated dies were too costly to discard merely because their year of date had elapsed. This unsightly overdate is part of the reason why Scot habitually omitted the final digit from dates if there was any chance the die would be held over for a later year.

Beginning in 1797 we find, in various denominations, two rev. star arrangements, "arc" and "cross." On the former, the stars are in a row of six nearest clouds, a row of five in a parallel arc below, with twelfth below beak and thirteen behind head. On the latter, stars are in straight lines obliquely crossing, forming diamond-shaped patterns: a peculiarity pointing to a single (still unidentified) apprentice in the Engraving Department. The cross arrangement occurs on dismes of 1798 and 1804–5, the latter suspected of being leftovers; on dollars of 1798–99; quarter eagles of 1804 (14 stars, reused on dismes, also believed leftovers); half eagles of 1798–99; and two eagle dies of 1797. The arc arrangement occurs 1797–1807 on all denominations.

Mint delivery warrants specify 27,550 dismes, July 23, 1798. Some specialists believe that many (possibly all) the dismes de-

Disme rev. employed.

WB's annot. copy Ency. right for historical purposes only. See 1804 14 * below.

1798



1 7 9 8

varieties]
[Total 1,094 both
Stars 6 + 7 on both varieties

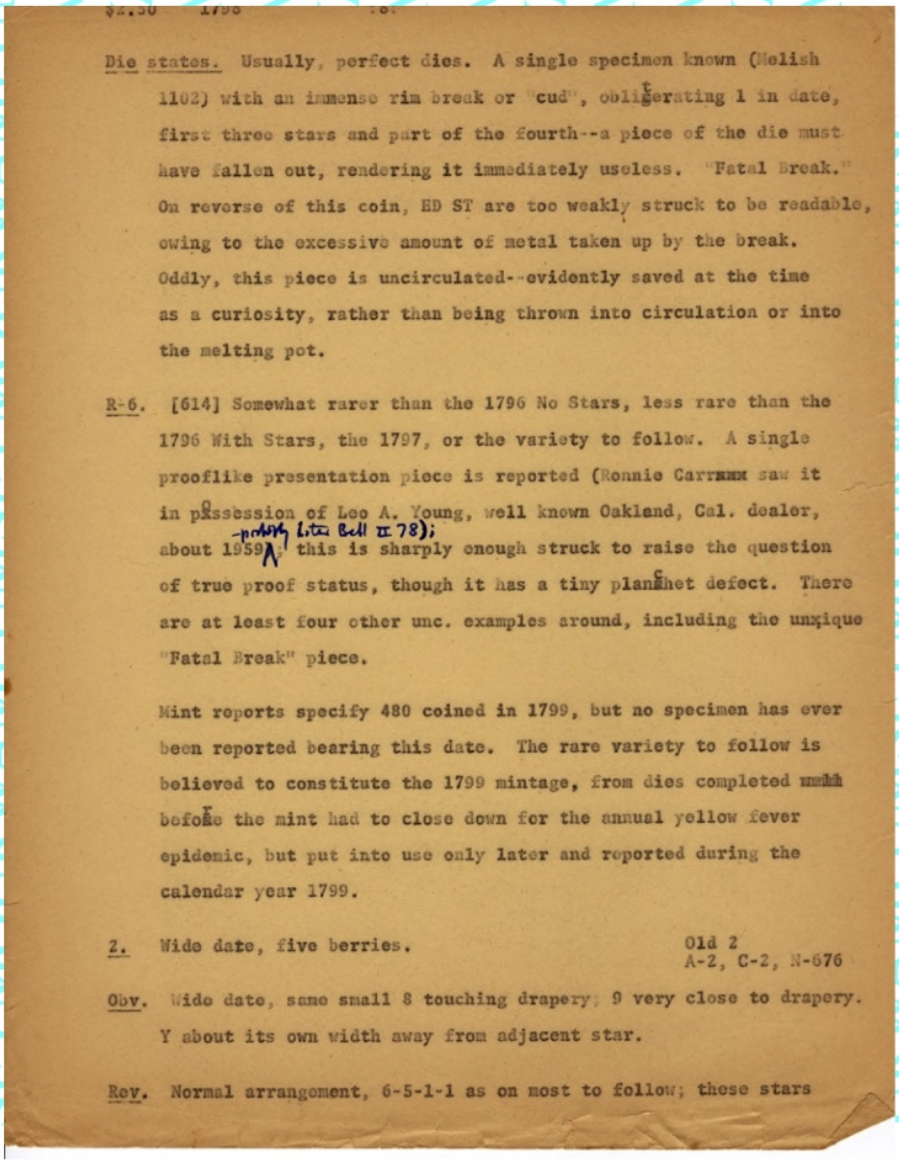
1. Close date, four berries. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-675

as
Obv. Date closely spaced, small 8(found in the overdate dimes) free of drapery; 7th star very close to Y.

Unique variant of normal arrangement:
Rev. thirteen stars above eagle, 6-6-0-1, these stars looking too large and squeezed together. The lack of a beak star and the equal numbers of stars in two upper rows cannot be found duplicated in any other die of any denomination. Four berries, as on preceding years, one impaled on a leaf point. D away from wing. A touches 3rd and 4th feathers. Bunch of arrows extends well to right of center of N. Leaf point near extreme right foot of I.

Close date, 4 berries. HB 1-A; Hilt 4-B. Wetmore:99, Brand I:86, almost EF, $4,000; Mint, S.I. 4.375 gms. Melish:1102, Unc., has "cud" rim break obliterating most of 1, first 3 stars, and part of fourth: "fatal break" ex Leo A. Young, 1959 ANA:956, Bell II:78 (1963) a proof-like presentation piece. In the 1950's possibly 7 or 8 continually showed up at auctions and in dealers stocks at major conventions. Four are Unc., including "Melish":1102. In those years the repeated sightings of these same few coins gave the date briefly the reputation for being overrated in rarity, and this variety was

believed the commoner of the two. in the late 1980's these coins have mysteriously vanished and Breen could not find even a usable photograph! The other variety, with wider date and 5 berries was originally believed of the highest rarity, as for many years only 4 were known (see 1963 ms. below), and only one of these qualified as Unc. Since the late 1960's, others have shown up in lower grades. Of the 8 to 10 with five berries, only 3 or 4 qualify as Unc.[See also **P** bk. ms.].



$2.50 1796

Die states. Usually, perfect dies. A single specimen known (Melish 1102) with an immense rim break or "cud", obliterating 1 in date, first three stars and part of the fourth--a piece of the die must have fallen out, rendering it immediately useless. "Fatal Break." On reverse of this coin, ED ST are too weakly struck to be readable, owing to the excessive amount of metal taken up by the break. Oddly, this piece is uncirculated--evidently saved at the time as a curiosity, rather than being thrown into circulation or into the melting pot.

R-6. [614] Somewhat rarer than the 1796 No Stars, less rare than the 1796 With Stars, the 1797, or the variety to follow. A single prooflike presentation piece is reported (Ronnie Carr saw it in possession of Leo A. Young, well known Oakland, Cal. dealer, about 1959 - probably Lists Bell II 78); this is sharply enough struck to raise the question of true proof status, though it has a tiny planchet defect. There are at least four other unc. examples around, including the unique "Fatal Break" piece.

Mint reports specify 480 coined in 1799, but no specimen has ever been reported bearing this date. The rare variety to follow is believed to constitute the 1799 mintage, from dies completed before the mint had to close down for the annual yellow fever epidemic, but put into use only later and reported during the calendar year 1799.

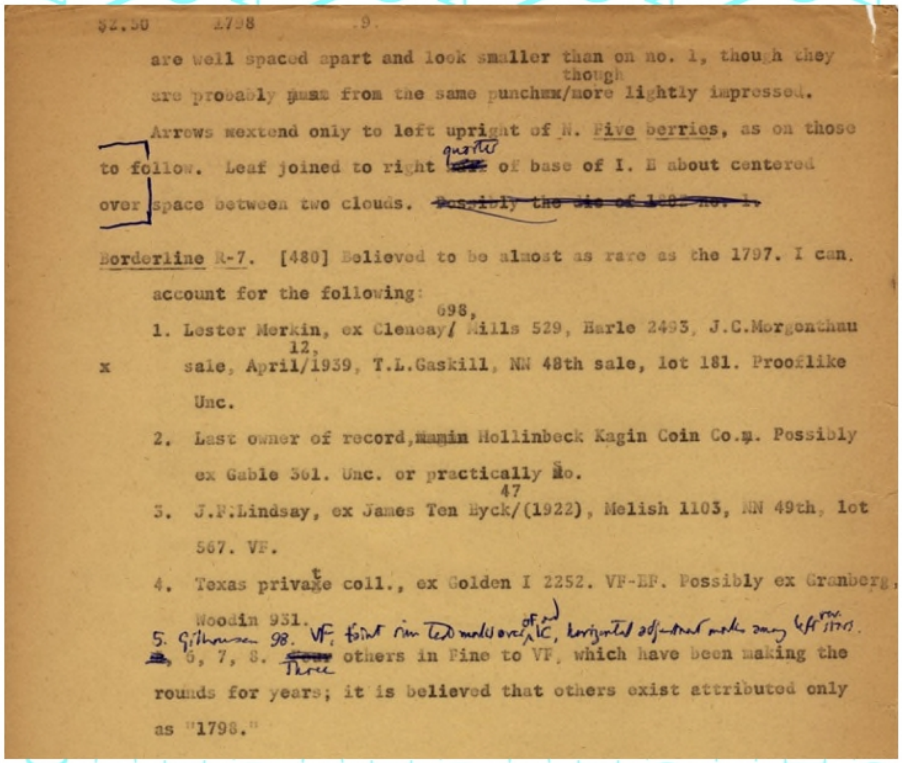
2. Wide date, five berries. Old 2
A-2, C-2, N-676

Obv. Wide date, same small 8 touching drapery; 9 very close to drapery. Y about its own width away from adjacent star.

Rev. Normal arrangement, 6-5-1-1 as on most to follow; these stars



Wide date, 5 berries. Breen 2, HB 2-B, C-2; Hilt 3-I, who identifies these as the [358] struck May-Aug. 1798. Rev. of 1798-1800 dismes with narrow A's. Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:82, AU, $8,250. Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I. JCM 6/13/1936. Adjustment marks center rev..



$2.50 1798 .9.

are well spaced apart and look smaller than on no. 1, though they are probably from the same punchwork/more lightly impressed. though

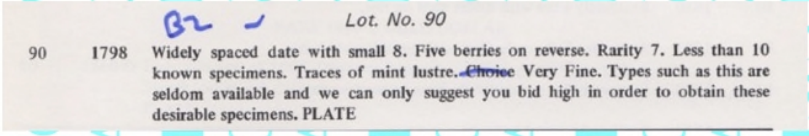
Arrows extend only to left upright of M. Five berries, as on those to follow. Leaf joined to right quarter of base of I. E about centered over space between two clouds. ~~Possibly the die of 1797 no. 1.~~

Borderline R-7. [480] Believed to be almost as rare as the 1797. I can account for the following:

1. Lester Merkin, ex Cleneay/(12/1939), Mills 529, Harle 2493, J.C.Morgenthau sale, April 1939, T.L.Gaskill, NN 48th sale, lot 181. Prooflike Unc.
2. Last owner of record, Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. Possibly ex Gable 361. Unc. or practically so.
3. J.F.Lindsay, ex James Ten Eyck/(1922), Melish 1103, NN 49th, lot 567. VF.
4. Texas private coll., ex Golden I 2252. VF-EF. Possibly ex Granberg, Woodin 951.
5. Gilhousen 98. VF, faint rim tool mark over 9 of 98, horizontal adjustment marks on obv. 6, 7, 8. Three others in Fine to VF, which have been making the rounds for years; it is believed that others exist attributed only as "1798."

These [480] delivered 12/28/1799 has long been believed to comprise the Five Berries coins; none with date 1799 has ever been rumored.
Farouk:296: '[…]tiny flake or nick on obv. to r. of head & pin-point nicks at l. obv. […]brilliant semi-proof[…]' Use BMM's descriptions with caution.
PCA III "Beck" 2/14/77:92 Plate, $575.00, "Fine-45". "[…]used for jewelry[…]Trace of solder stain on edge where loop removed. Field appears

burnished, many tiny nicks on surface[…]" See Bibliography: Catalogues of Auctions.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:987 "[…]Extremely fine[…]Proof like surface[…]" $125.00.
JCM#311, 10/18/33:142 VF. $125.00.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:87 'Practically uncirculated.'
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
KS 4/3-4/59:2599 "[…]five berries[…]Lustrous almost extremely fine. […]Plate". WB's writing illegible.
See original ms. in Bibliography below for Adams numbers; additional die markers.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1487.

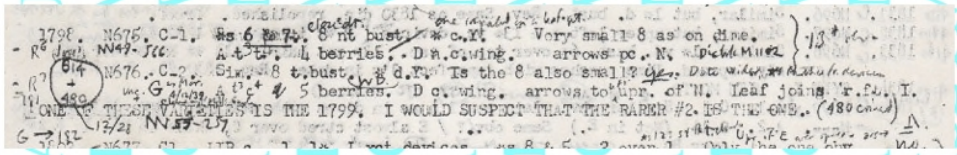


Lot. No. 90

90 1798 Widely spaced date with small 8. Five berries on reverse. Rarity 7. Less than 10 known specimens. Traces of mint lustre. ~~Choice~~ Very Fine. Types such as this are seldom available and we can only suggest you bid high in order to obtain these desirable specimens. PLATE

WB's annot. K 1/75:90 above.

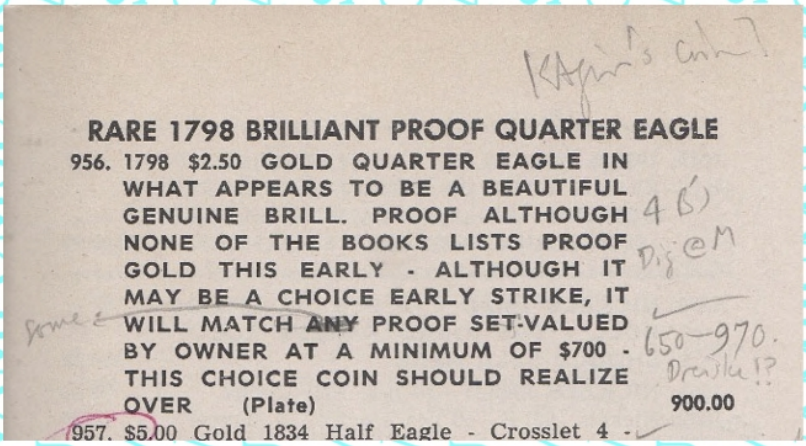
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



1798. N676. C-1. 8 nt bust. Very small 8 as on dime.
4 berries. D.n.c.wing. arrows pc. N.
N676. C-2. Sm. 8 t.bust. 5 berries. D c.wing. arrows to upr. of N. Leaf joins r.f. I.
ONE OF THESE VARIETIES IS THE 1799. I WOULD SUSPECT THAT THE RARER #2. IS THE ONE.

The above B&W scan is superior to the color scan.

WB's annotated 1959 ANA catalogue below.



RARE 1798 BRILLIANT PROOF QUARTER EAGLE

956. 1798 $2.50 GOLD QUARTER EAGLE IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A BEAUTIFUL GENUINE BRILL. PROOF ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE BOOKS LISTS PROOF GOLD THIS EARLY - ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE A CHOICE EARLY STRIKE, IT WILL MATCH ~~ANY~~ PROOF SET-VALUED BY OWNER AT A MINIMUM OF $700 - THIS CHOICE COIN SHOULD REALIZE OVER (Plate) 900.00

957. $5.00 Gold 1834 Half Eagle - Crosslet 4 -

SEYMOURWAMPUM

1802

Stars 8 + 5.







1 8 0 2

[2,612 + 423 in 1803 = 3,035]

The coins reported in 1803 almost certainly bore date 1802. No 1803-xxdated quarter eagles have ever been reported in gold, and those in brass reported by Adams-Woodin (U.S.Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces, 1913 and later reprints, have without exception proved to be gambling tokens manufactured by Kettle of London, usually but not always bearing the name KETTLE near border right of date. As the Kettle pieces also exist in silver and may come gilt without the name showing, conceivably a novice might be deceived.

Most survivors are VF to EF.

Mintage figure includes [423] coined in 1803 from 1802 dated dies.



Reverse 1.

$2.50 1802 .10:

For many years the 1802 has been listed everywhere as "1802 over 1", probably influenced by the half eagle listings which are always 1802 over 1. However, the majority of 1802 quarter eagles show either microscopic traces of 1, or nothing at all within the 2 (look at the knob and vertically below it); I have never seen one with a clear overdate, and can only conclude that such a piece would be a rare early impression from the initial state of the single obverse die used for this year.

The order of the four reverses here presented is tentative, in the absence of any obverse die progression. All have normally arranged stars (6-5-1-1) and five berries, so there is no stylistic basis for any order.

1. Old 1
A-2, C-2, N-678

Obv. Stars 8 + 5. LIB closely spaced; first star, 1 and L very close to devices.

Rev. Very similar to 1798 no. 2. Upright of E almost over space between two clouds; 13th star directly below 10th and not very close to neck; arrows to left upright of N; A touches 3rd feather and is very close to 4th. Top two berries partly merge into leaves, the left one more so. Long spine from just below upper left corner of shield leftward into wing.

Die states. Die flaw from 2nd feather at right pointing to top of A. This may or may not be constant. The recutting on left pendant of T of UNITED, at first clear, fades out.

R-6. Compare lot 1080, Sales auction Quality (Jerry Cohen & Abner Kreisberg), Nov. 27, 1972, Woodin 932; Gilhouse 101-101 - Ruth or a Mint 1797

Sale : 2655.

Ill. is reverse 2.



$2.50 1802 :11:

2. Old 2

A-3, C-3, N-679.

Obv. 1

Rev. Quickly identified by leaf free of I, though it is very close to Upper and lowest outside berries free in field, latter right tip. below r. foot of final A (hold coin so that this A is upright). Both prongs of beak run into star. variety 1. Thirteenth star directly below 10th, as on Arrows to left side of upright of N; lowest outer leaf a "ghost"; RI nearly touch.

R-7. Wilharm 63; Bell II 79 (VF); FCI ex Dr.Judd--"Ill. Hist." 56. By far the rarest variety of the year.

3 Old 3

A-1, C-2, N-677.

Obv. 1.

Rev. Leaf firmly joins r. half of base of I; all berries clear of leaves; A free of wing and well away from 4th feather; 13th star almost touches neck; arrows extend beyond left upright of N.

R-3, low, possibly high R-4. Least rare variety of the year. WGC 83, Gaskill--NN 48th, lot 182; NN 49th ,lot 568; Melish 1104; ill. SC, / Guidebook.

4. Old 4

Not in A, C, or N

Obv. 1.

Rev. First star plainly double punched, showing 9 points--originally too high, too far r., then corrected. A touches 3rd and 4th feathers; 13th star well away from neck; top four berries just touch leaves; leaf joins r. base of I; die scratch from upper left corner of shield to ribbon; die scratch (?) or crack (?) from r. wingtip to border. Arrows do not extend beyond left upright of N. The preceding criteria suffice to avoid confusing this variety with any of the first three.

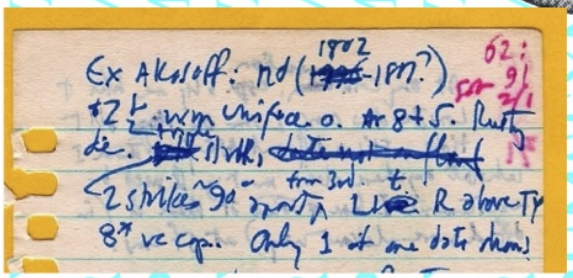
$2.50 1802 :12:

R-5, but rarer than no. 3. This was known to Adams but confused by him with his first two numbers (our nos. 1 and 3). Well known examples include Gaskill's, lot 183 of NN 48th sale; "Cicero" 258; Davis-Graves 666.

It is still not definitely known if any of the reverses of this year are identical to dime reverses of 1802-03. No. 4 is very close to reverse B of the 1802 dimes (cf. lot 94, Merkin sale, April 1, 1966), and/or rev. A of 1803 dimes. Should it prove to be identical to any of these, we may assume that the 425 quarter eagles minted in 1803 from 1802 dies included some part of the variety No. 4.

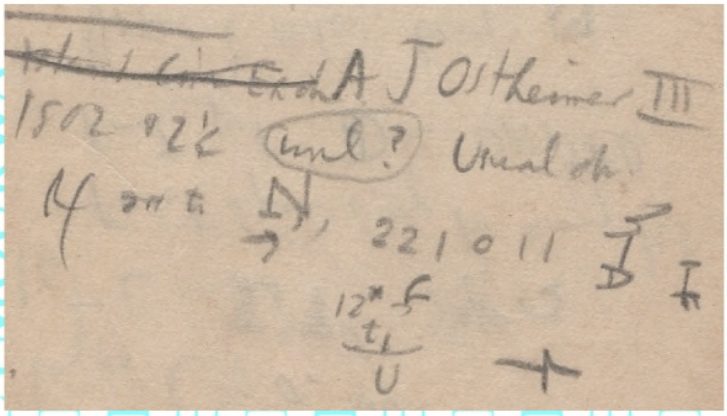


Ill. right is reverse 3.

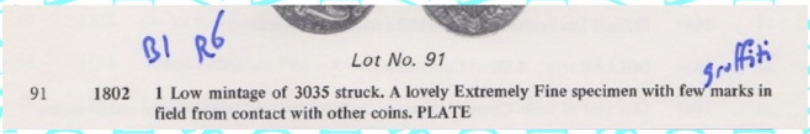


NB 62:9 below. Uniface. Ex Kosoff.

HB 1-A Rev. leaf free. I.
1-B Rev. spike, shield to wing.
1-C
1-D Rev. star 1 double punched.
NB:WBV#13p.1 Artyfact below.
BMM 3/23/48:3485, $60.00. BMM A. Carter 10/55:88 'AU.'



KS 4/3-4/59:2600 “1802 over 1. Almost Very Fine. […]”
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See original ms. in Bibliography below for information on Adams numbers and additional die markers.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1488.



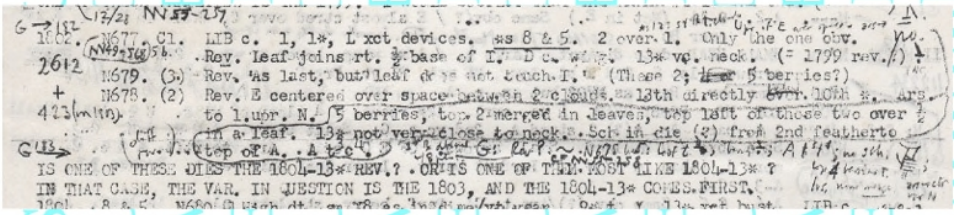
Lot No. 91

91 1802 1 Low mintage of 3035 struck. A lovely Extremely Fine specimen with few marks in field from contact with other coins. PLATE

WB’s annot. K 1/75:91 above.

See Bibliography below for WB’s copy P.T.A. Breen 2 described varieties B-1 lot 559 ‘EF/VF’; B-4 lot 560 ‘EF/VF’.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

WB's catalogue 1959 ANA:308 is annotated: (open)[$]175-250 (sold); however he has no remarks as to authenticity of it as 1802/1.

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMO
URWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWA
MPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUM
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1803

[0]

The gaming tokens/counters looking similar to U.S. coins were made in Birmingham England by Kettle & Son's were brass and silver. Not a U.S. Mint issue. Some are known with and without the name Kettle to the right of date.



Ill. is Judd without KETTLE removed from right side of date. From Breen's Judd 3rd.

Because annual Director's Reports showed a delivery of 423 quarter eagles for 1803, for long this date was believed to exist as a rarity, though nobody ever managed to find a genuine mint specimen. Adams-Woodin {1913} managed to compound the confusion by listing alleged copper trial pieces from regular dies of this date, and specifying that these should not be confused with the brass British gambling counters of vaguely similar design with KETTLE right of date.

1804

14 Star [2,324+]
13 Star [1,003-]



Ill. 14 star reverse, EF..

1 8 0 4

[5,327]

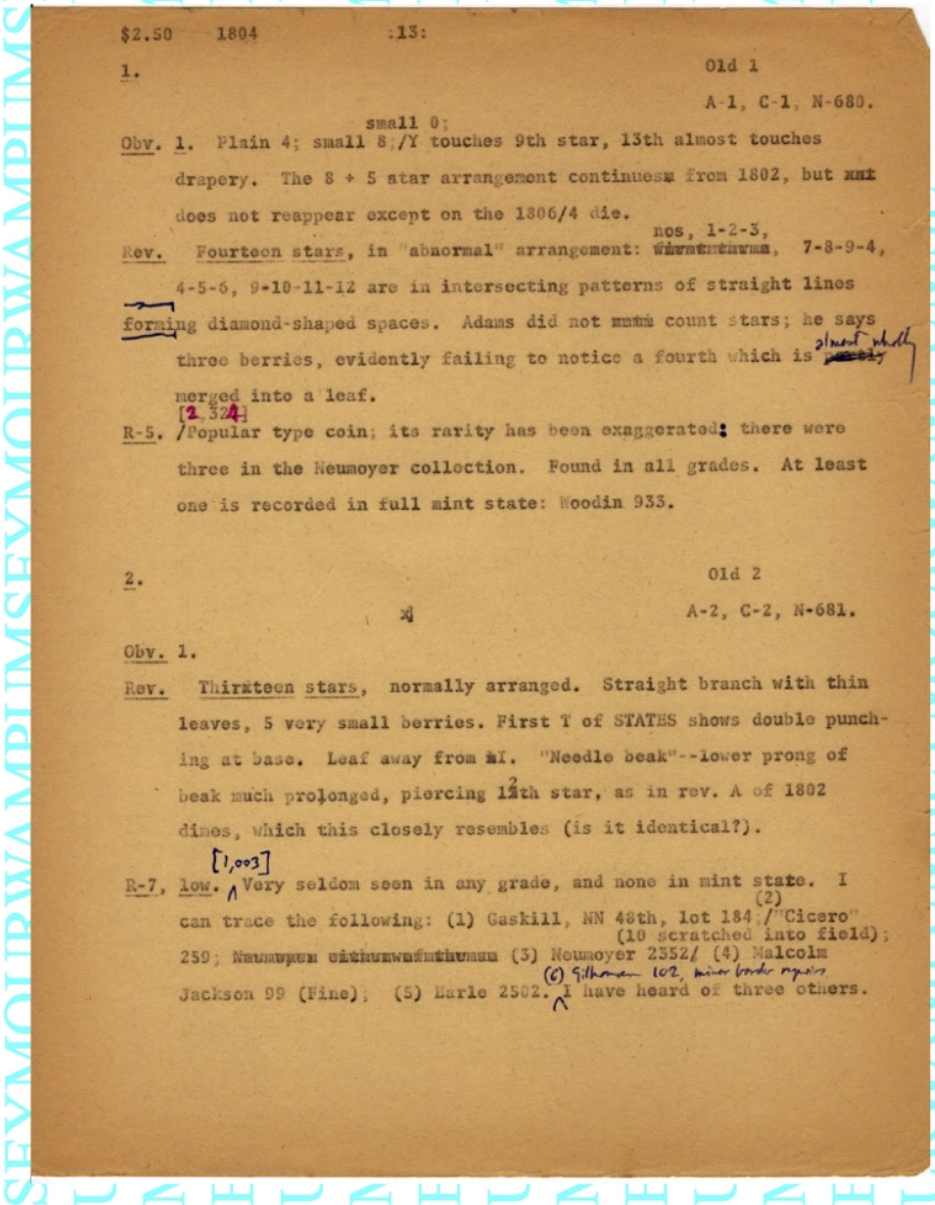
The obverse of this year is distinctive for having a plain 4, without serif or crosslet; this punch was used for the dimes. Punches used for the eagle, half dollar (shown on the two 1805/4 obverses), quarter dollar, cent, and five of the six x half-cent obverses of the year, show crosslet 4's.* One of the two reverses of this year shows 14 stars in "abnormal" arrangement, through blunder, the die was also used on some of the dimes, and it looks like something left over from 1798 at a juncture when discovery of even one more blundered die might have raised the question of abolishing the ale break during working hours. All the other abnormal arrangements date from 1798-99 and are probably to be ascribed to one and the same assistant or apprentice in the Engraving Department.

*The punch used on the 1804 dollars is of a style adopted in 1834 with plain cranber and flat top. A similar punch occurs on plain 4 proof eagles dated 1804, made like the dollars late in 1834 for diplomatic presentation sets.



Ill. 14 star.

Disme rev. 14 Stars see 1796, 1797.



$2.50 1804 :13:

1. Old 1

A-1, C-1, N-680.

small 0;

Obv. 1. Plain 4; small 8; /Y touches 9th star, 13th almost touches drapery. The 8 + 5 star arrangement continues from 1802, but does not reappear except on the 1806/4 die.

Rev. Fourteen stars, in "abnormal" arrangement: nos, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-4, 4-5-6, 9-10-11-12 are in intersecting patterns of straight lines forming diamond-shaped spaces. Adams did not count stars; he says almost wholly three berries, evidently failing to notice a fourth which is merged into a leaf.

[2,324]

R-5. /Popular type coin; its rarity has been exaggerated; there were three in the Neumoyer collection. Found in all grades. At least one is recorded in full mint state: Woodin 933.

2. Old 2

A-2, C-2, N-681.

Obv. 1.

Rev. Thirteen stars, normally arranged. Straight branch with thin leaves, 5 very small berries. First T of STATES shows double punching at base. Leaf away from ear. "Needle beak"--lower prong of beak much prolonged, piercing 12th star, as in rev. A of 1802 dimes, which this closely resembles (is it identical?).

[1,003]

R-7, low. Very seldom seen in any grade, and none in mint state. I can trace the following: (1) Gaskill, NN 48th, lot 184; (2) "Cicero" (10 scratched into field); 259; (3) Neumoyer 2352; (4) Malcolm Jackson 99 (Fine); (5) Earle 2502. (6) Gilhaman 102, minor border repairs I have heard of three others.



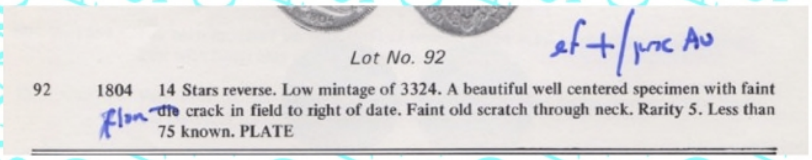
Ill. is Breen 14 star reverse Breen 1, C-1. Dime reverse (No. 102) leftover from 1798 (98-99). "Blundered die."

Rev. of 14 stars: "Abnormal" arrangement, aka "cross" arrangement. Hilt 7-F, HB 1-B later crack @ 4. Auction 82:900, Unc., $15,000; BMM 1922 Ten Eyck:49, NN:185; N:1936 Au+. Elder 5/14/1909 to Holden. Survivors in all grades.
Less rare than 13 stars, stars in "arc" arrangement. Three times as many as 13 stars.
P.T.A. Breen 2 6/75:561 14 stars '+/-EF'.

Rev. of 13 stars: HB 1-A, perfect Obv.. Possibly 9 survive, none above EF. Usually in low grades. Charlotte:1672 (S 3/17/1979), EF, $20,000; Carter:533, EF $27,500, M. Brownlee.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:989 "[…]Skillfully plugged above cap[…]Very Fine[…]." $30.00.
ms. FCI Descriptions of New Varieties {1977}(1/1976-4/77): 1804 Breen 1.

Rev. 14 stars. EF, rev. sharper than obv., many adjustment marks. From Henry Chapman, many years ago. B0008.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See original WB ms. in Bibliography below for additional die markers described.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:89 'EF' no star count.
Stack 4/55:803 Reads: "803 1804 Faint edge dent. Extremely Fine." WB annot.: Circle lot #; question mark and double underline Faint; redact Ex[…]e adds vf to[…]; adds 14* 120 not us; OOWL OTRL [buyer]; to StCat VF + 25%.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1489.

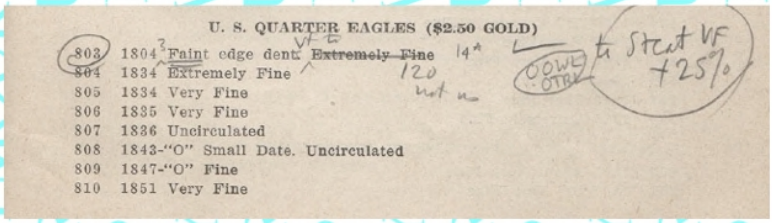


Lot No. 92

92 1804 14 Stars reverse. Low mintage of 3324. A beautiful well centered specimen with faint die crack in field to right of date. Faint old scratch through neck. Rarity 5. Less than 75 known. PLATE

WB's annot K 1/75:92 above.

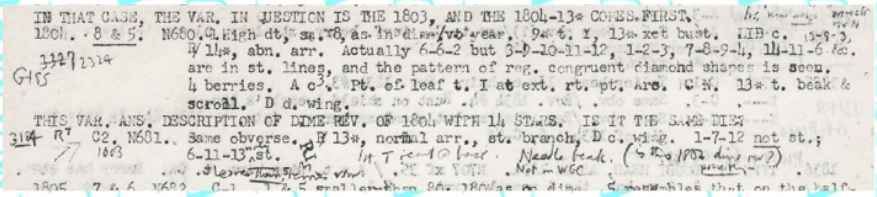
For Auc '85 see Bibliography below: NB 56:164-5.
WB's annotated Stack's 4/1955:803 below.



U. S. QUARTER EAGLES ($2.50 GOLD)

803 1804 Faint edge dent. Extremely Fine
804 1834 Extremely Fine
805 1834 Very Fine
806 1835 Very Fine
807 1836 Uncirculated
808 1843-"O" Small Date. Uncirculated
809 1847-"O" Fine
810 1851 Very Fine

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



IN THAT CASE, THE VAR. IN QUESTION IS THE 1803, AND THE 1804-13★ COMES FIRST.
1804. 8 & 5. N680.Q. High dt., sm. 8, as in dies of year. 9★ t. Y, 13★ ret bust. HB c.
R 11★, abn. arr. Actually 6-6-2 but 3-9-10-11-12, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-4, 11-11-6 rec.
are in st. lines, and the pattern of reg. congruent diamond shapes is seen.
4 berries. A c. Pt. of leaf t. I at ext. rt. pt. Arc. C N. 13★ t. beak &
scroll. D d. wing.
THIS VAR. ANS. DESCRIPTION OF DIME REV. OF 1804 WITH 14 STARS. IS IT THE SAME DIE?
R7 C2. N681. Same obverse. R 13★, normal arr., st. branch, D c. wing. 1-7-12 not st.;
6-11-13 st.

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.
Elder 10/1908:36 Liberty head, 13 stars. Rev. Heraldic eagle. Very fine. Rare. Plate. $14.50 John.

1805



Color obv. ill. is W.Elliot Woodward, January 23, 1883. Note mark above cap. This and all Vogel, Wampum ill's. are from W.Breen's archives of 1,000's of sepia, b&w, color photos.

$2.50 1805 :14:

1 8 0 5

[1,781]

For unknown reasons, the engravers reverted to the 7 + 6 star arrangement on the single obverse of this year. Only the one variety known. The dies were still usable at the end of the year and the reverse was used for all 1806-07 coins; the obv. was later annealed and altered at the mint to 1806/05. Alteration of a die which had already been in use was an extremely rare practice at the mint, most overdates being alterations of previously unused dies. I can at the moment recall only the following instances:

(1) Quarter dollar, 1805, Browning #4, reused as 1806/5.

(2) Half dollar, 1805, Overton 105, reused as 1806/5 Ov. 104.

(3) The quarter eagle of 1805 here being considered.

In addition, 1801/ cent reverse [redacted] K (a fourth 1/000 blunder in the same year!) was altered by correcting the fration to redd 1/100, becoming 1803 reverse G, showing 1 over [redacted] first 0 in fraction. This last is almost certainly from the same case as was cited for the 1804 Fourteen Stars; the other three, all of 1805-06, are almost certainly for reasons of economy and/or temporary unavailability of new dieмм blanks.

1 Old 1

A-1, C-1, N-682

Obv. 1. Numeral punches as on the dime, the 5 being smaller and most resembles that found on the rare "small 5, stems" obv. of the half cent. The zero isмм larger than on the 1804; this larger punch, apparently adopted for an 1804 die not used in that year, continues through 1807. Spur from border runs almost into 9th star.

$2.50 1805 :15:

Rev. Arrows extend only to space between UN. Five berries, three being stemless. Leaves run into IC; claw barely touches final A. Larger stars than formerly, the 11th xx double punched showing nine points. Border often weak.

Die states. Obv. Perfect, and later with faint crack joining 4th to 7th stars and LI at tops.

High R-5. Three or four mint state ones are around, the rest mostly VF to AU. Woodin 934 and Gable 364 were two of the finest.

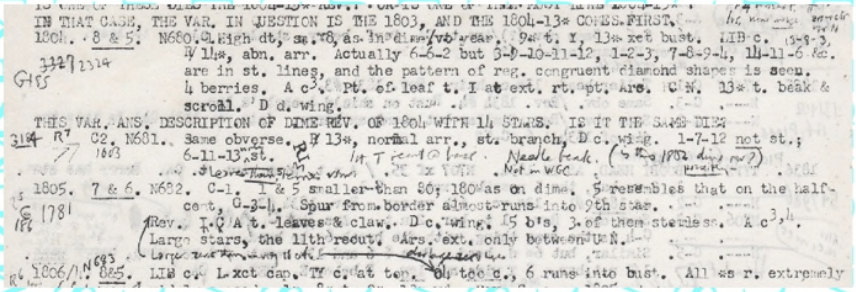


Ill. is Breen 1, C-1.

Dies were evidently from tougher steel, as they lasted longer than any earlier ones. Other overdates are normally from dies not earlier used and probably not given initial hardening with their earlier dates; reuse of 1805 dies after overdating testifies to Scot's running out of die steel.

Three in S.I.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:90 'F'.
Repunched rev. star 11 is HB 1-A.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:990 "[…]Edge somewhat bruised below date[…]." $26.00.
KS 4/3-4/59:2601 "[…]Sharp. Extremely Fine. […]"
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1490. —:1491.
Elder 9/20/1935 (B-1).

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



IN THAT CASE, THE VAR. IN QUESTION IS THE 1803, AND THE 1804-13* COMES FIRST.

1804. 8 & 5. N680. C-1. High dt., as in dime, vs. rear. 9* t. r. 13* xet bust. LIB c. 1-8-3. R 11*, abn. arr. Actually 6-6-2 but 3-9-10-11-12, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-4, 11-11-6 &c. are in st. lines, and the pattern of reg. congruent diamond shapes is seen. 4 berries. A c3. Pt. of leaf t. I at ext. rt. pt. Ars. C N. 13* t. beak & scroll. D d. wing.

THIS VAR. ANS. DESCRIPTION OF DIME REV. OF 1804 WITH 14 STARS. IS IT THE SAME DIE?

C2. N681. Same obverse. R 13*, normal arr., st. branch, D c. wing. 1-7-12 not st.; 6-11-13 st.

1805. 7 & 6. N682. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 1804 as on dime. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, G-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.

Rev. I.Q A t. leaves & claw. D c. wing. 15 b's, 3 of them stemless. A c3,4. Large stars, the 11th recut. Ars. ext. only between U N.

1806/1. N683. LIB c. L xct cap. TY c. at top. 6 too c., 6 runs into bust. All as r. extremely

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1806









Six star facing.

Ill's are 1806/5.

JCM#311, 10/18/33:146. 1806 over 5. EF Plate. $250.00.

1 8 0 6

[1,616]

Two varieties, both overdates; as they have different star arrangements, both could be xx considered as type coins. The 1806/4 (from a different obv. from that used on the known 1804's) has stars 8 + 5; the 1806x/5 (from the reused obv. die of 1805) has stars 7 + 6.

1 1806/4 Old 1

A-1, C-1, N-683

Obv. 1. In date, a 4 is plain within the 6, hence "1806/4." Not from the regularly used 1804 obverse die: the zero is large, xY much farther from star, and in fact all stars are widely spaced with first merging with lowest curl and 8th above cap and touching it--unlike any other obv. of the period. Stars 8 + 5, their last appearance in this arrangement.

Rev. Same as 1805.

Die states. I. Perfect obv. II. Crack through tops of LIB; another through tops of RRTY and all stars at right. xThis is the state

B-1 Described in WB's copy G.E.N.A. P.T.A. 9/1974:1799 see Bib. below.

$2.50 1806 :16:

usually found. III. Heavy rim break touching LI: only one seen.
Pictured in the Standard Catalogue.

Borderline R-6. [1136] I have ~~www~~ not seen one in full mint state, and the best one familiar to me from photographs is Earle 2505, nearer AU than EF. The Kagins have handled/one at least they called unc.: lot 1007, 214th sale, Oct. 31, 1957; 218th, May 31, 1958, lot 118. Not impossibly this may be the Earle coin.

2 1806/5 Old 2

A-2, C-2, N-684

Obv. ~~Identical~~ Identical with the 1805 die, a 6 being punched over the 5,/ touching the zero and leaning to right.
The 7 + 6 arrangement of stars continues through 1807.

Rev. Same as last.

Die states. I. Very faint crack ~~xxx~~ through inner points of 6th and 7th stars; outer point of 7th through tops of LIB. Davis-Graves 670 (see below). II. This crack now very heavy; ~~and~~ found so on most survivors.

Borderline R-7. [480] The best one I have seen is a thin hair's breadth from Unc.: Texas private collection, ex Davis-Graves 670, Grant Pierce 1075. The Kagins handled one they called prooflike Unc., e.g. lot 2288, their 220th sale, August 30, 1958. I have not seen it. Others seen to date range from Fine to nearly EF, usually weakly struck, eight or nine in all.



Ill's are 1806/4, 5 stars facing. Elder 6/22/35 (B-1).
Later a crack developed bases 180; later still, crack, then cud at LI. HB_.

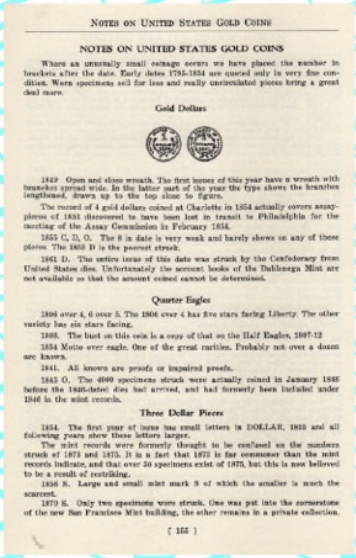


Two in S.I.
Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. 1806 6/4 overdate with 5 stars facing. HB?, 1805 A.



Ill. is Breen 2, C-2. Six stars facing (Obv. of 1805 7+6). Altered by Scot. Always with some stage of break at LIB. Usually in low grades.
Mint, S.I.; Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I. Newlin, Garrett:740, $22,000, Robinson:825, AU, $12,000.

HB 2-B?



NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

Where an unusually small coinage occurs we have placed the number in brackets after the date. Early dates 1795-1834 are graded only in very fine condition. Worn specimens sell for less and really uncirculated pieces bring a great deal more.

Gold Dollars

1849 Open and close wreath. The first issues of this year have a wreath with branches spread wide. In the latter part of the year the type shows the branches lengthened, drawn up to the top close to figure.

The record of 4 gold dollars coined at Charlotte in 1854 actually covers assay-pieces of 1853 discovered to have been lost in transit to Philadelphia for the meeting of the Assay Commission in February 1854.

1855 C, D, O. The 8 in date is very weak and barely shows on any of these pieces. The 1855 D is the poorest struck.

1861 D. The entire issue of this date was struck by the Confederacy from United States dies. Unfortunately the account books of the Dahlonega Mint are not available so that the amount coined cannot be determined.

Quarter Eagles

1806 over 4, 6 over 5. The 1806 over 4 has five stars facing Liberty. The other variety has six stars facing.

1808. The bust on this coin is a copy of that on the Half Eagles, 1807-12

1834 Motto over eagle. One of the great rarities. Probably not over a dozen are known.

1841. All known are proofs or inspired proofs.

1843 O. The 4040 specimens struck were actually coined in January 1846 before the 1846-dated dies had arrived, and had formerly been included under 1846 in the mint records.

Three Dollar Pieces

1854. The first year of issue has small letters in DOLLAR, 1855 and all following years show these letters larger.

The mint records were formerly thought to be confused on the numbers struck of 1873 and 1875. It is a fact that 1873 is far commoner than the mint records indicate, and that over 30 specimens exist of 1873, but this is now believed to be a result of restriking.

1856 S. Large and small mint mark S of which the smaller is much the scarcest.

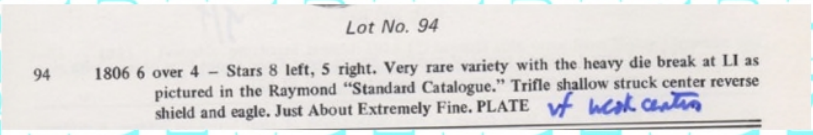
1870 S. Only two specimens were struck. One was put into the cornerstone of the new San Francisco Mint building, the other remains in a private collection.

[155]

Written/revised by Breen.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1854, '6/4' Break tops LI(B) in AU see Artyfact.
Lot:1855 '6/4' crack tops LIBERTY in AU.
Misc. AV notes p.12.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:991 "1806 Over 4 Practically Uncirculated[…]. From the Curtis Sale[…]" $105.00. [_]:992 "1806 Over 5[…]Extremely Fine. From the Col. Green Collection[…]" $275.00.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1492.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Artyfact** WB.

Mehl 6/1941:1911 1806 over ’04 Practically unc. […]nick at O in OF. […] .

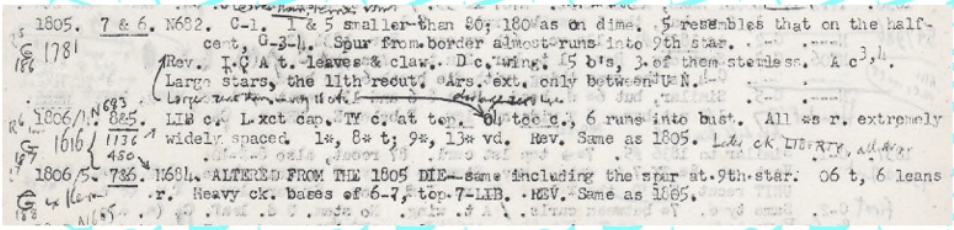


Lot No. 94

94 1806 6 over 4 – Stars 8 left, 5 right. Very rare variety with the heavy die break at LI as pictured in the Raymond “Standard Catalogue.” Trifle shallow struck center reverse shield and eagle. Just About Extremely Fine. PLATE vf wk. center

WB’s annot. K 1/75:94 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



1805. 7 & 6. N682. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on dime. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, C-3-L. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. I.Q A t. leaves & claw. D c. wing. 5 b's, 3 of them steeples. A c.
Large stars, the 11th recut. Ars. ext. only between U N.
1806/1. 885. LIB c. L xct cap. TY c. at top. OU too c., 6 runs into bust. All as r. extremely widely spaced. 1*, 8* t; 9*, 13* vd. Rev. Same as 1805.
1806/5. 786. N684. ALTERED FROM THE 1805 DIE—same including the spur at 9th star. 06 t, 6 leans r. Heavy ck. bases of 6-7, top 7-LIB. REV. Same as 1805.

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

WB: “Missmade.” To add to the first paragraph on the above ms. from another ms: Note: The 1806/5 is from the die actually used in 1805, representing one of only a dew instances where a U.S. die one used was annealed & altered for subsequent use. [This in part was {1970} The Minting Process, how coins are Made and Missmade.]

1807



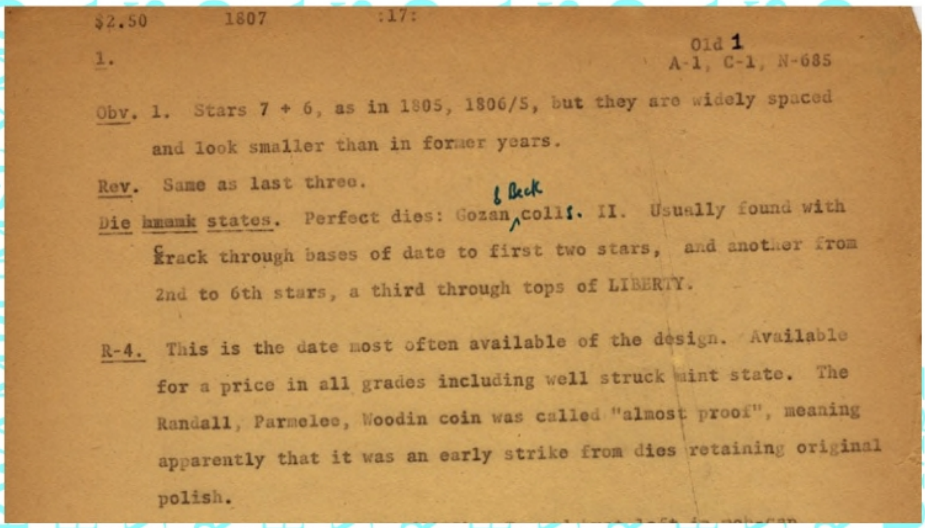
Ill's. are A-U.

1 8 0 7

[6,812, Feb. 5, 1807]

Only the one variety, last appearance of the design in this denomination. Stars 7 + 6.





$2.50 1807 :17:

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-685

Obv. 1. Stars 7 + 6, as in 1805, 1806/5, but they are widely spaced and look smaller than in former years.

Rev. Same as last three.

Die ~~hmmk~~ states. Perfect dies: Gozan, coll. II. Usually found with break through bases of date to first two stars, and another from 2nd to 6th stars, a third through tops of LIBERTY.

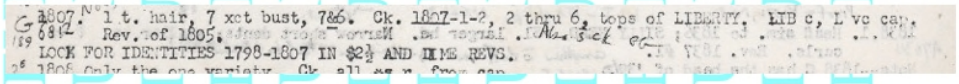
R-4. This is the date most often available of the design. Available for a price in all grades including well struck mint state. The Randall, Parmelee, Woodin coin was called "almost proof", meaning apparently that it was an early strike from dies retaining original polish.

855 1807 Liberty Cap $2.50 Gold Piece. A well struck ~~Very~~ Fine Specimen. Worth 550.00
****

400-450 Earl Parker

Breen catalog, see above: CSNA 10/1960:855.
PCA III 2/14/77:93 $1,750.00 Plate, “Extremely Fine-40”. PCA III 2/14/77:94 $1,500.00 Plate, “Very Fine-30”.
BMM 3/23/48:3486 $42.00. BMM A.Carter 10/55:91 ‘EF, luster.’
Scott 8/6/35 had lint mark in field above arrows (B-1).
KS 4/3-4/59:2602 “Choice Extremely Fine. […]”
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1493.
See Bib. for WB’s copy G.E.N.A. P.T.A. 9/1974:1800.
WB’s copy P.T.A. Breen 2 6/75:562 ‘Ch AU’; —:563 “EF/AU’; —:564 ‘EF’ die variety described.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.


1807. N°1 l t. hair, 7 xct bust, 7&6. Ck. 1807-1-?, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBERTY, LYB c, L vc cap.
Rev. of 1805.
LOCK FOR IDENTITIES 1798-1807 IN $2½ AND DME REVS.

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMO
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1808 Reich's Capped Draped Bust





Ill's are Breen 1, C-1. Capped bust left, large diameter. A single type coin.

HB 1-A.







THIRD DESIGN (1808): Draped bust left in mob-cap, by John Reich. Rev. Eagle with raised wings, 2 1/2 D. below. Design adapted from the new sr half-eagle devices (1807-12). Weight as before. Diameter approx. 13/16" = almost 21 mm.

1 8 0 8

[2,710, Feb. 26]

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-686

Obv. 1. Only the one variety. Small widely spaced numerals. Invariably weak at borders (which are narrow), and usually with flat stars at right. Punches apparently as on the 1809 dime.

Rev. Only the one variety. ES above STAT, F above O.

Die states. Perfect dies (extremely rare, existence controversial) and with crack from cap through all stars at right.

R-5. In extremet demand from type collectors, as the design is found only on this one date. Generally seen from Fine to EF (the commonest

GRADING STANDARDS FINE: Eye complete, ear half visible. VERY FINE: Partial cap, hair, & claw details; over half wing feather visible at least as outlines. EXTREMELY FINE: Isolated rubbed spots only; partial mint luster. UNCIRCULATED: No trace of wear.



$2.50 1808 :18:

grade is VF-EF with edge dents, though it is usually graded higher) with a tiny sprinkling of AU's, a.f. Grant Piece 1077. I have seen three with claims to mint state, possibly the best overall being the former Jerome Kern piece (recently offered well up in five figures), which has unusually bold stars but a rim nick near the 2nd. Early auction records in this grade are few: H.P.Smith 246, D.S. Wilson 164.

Both the small mintage of the date, the presence of a single-year design, and the undue scarcity of the date require explanation, and I have seen none in the Archives. Possibly banks depositing bullion began specifying half eagles only. It is also likely that many of these quarter eagles were melted in later years, as is certainly the case with half eagles 1813-34.

****

856 1808 First Year and Only issue of its kind with Large Bust to the Left. An Extremely Fine coin with a very lite rim nick at 3rd Star on the Obverse. Reverse has faint hairline scratches in field over Eagle's Head. However, these are minute as the coin shows very little wear. EXTREMELY RARE! 2500.00

****

857 1836 Bust Type $2.50 - Very Fine

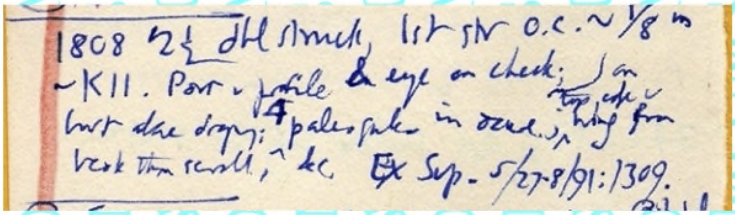
See Catalogs below. Breen die mark comment at right. CSNA 10/1960:856.

John Reich, the German immigrant who sold himself into indentured service to get to the U.S. during the Napoleonic Wars. & rescued [sic] (refused) to become Assistant Engraver 1807-17, received orders from Mint Director Patterson to provide improved designs for all denominations: a slap at Scot, his superior in office. Reich's sole contribution to the quarter-eagle denomination is a single pair of dies for a single-year type coin of a tiny mintage: an instant rarity. On Feb. 26, 1808, came the single delivery, [2,710], using the date and letter punches reused on 1809 disme's, and bust device punches not later resurrected. Obverse bears Reich's usual "signature": thirteenth (lower right) star is notched. Fewer than 50 known survivors are traceable, the true number possibly between 35 and 40.

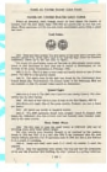
The reason for this tiny mintage is unknown, though early die breakage may have had something to do with it. All survivors, including the three Unc's., show excessively narrow borders, usually incomplete. This must have been seen as a design flaw conductive to rapid wear on both sides, as on the half-dollars reverses of 1836-37 and the Paquet double eagles. Predictably, the survivors are in lower grade range than those of earlier dates lacking this problem. The distribution includes three Uncs., possibly six AU's, 15 or more in VF-EF, perhaps a dozen in VG to F. Most are weak on wingtips and tops of letters; all are weak on parts of borders; all have some stars flat; most show rim dents or bruises, as the entire issue had been spilled on a floor at the mint. But even in worn condition, this date has always been subject to unusual demand, much of it representing pressure from type collectors who want one of each major design. Many survivors have accordingly spent decades in museums, estates, or permanent collections; any that shows up at auction will attract fierce competition.

No Archives documentation explains, or even suggests, the small mintage, abandonment of the design, or noncoinage of quarter eagles for the dozen years to follow. All we have is conjectures; Breen's follow: The tiny mintage may reflect early die breakage and/or quick filling of bank orders for quarter eagles. Banks normally specified the denomination into which they wanted their deposits of foreign coins or native bullion coined, and over 90% of the time they wanted most or all of their gold deposits coined into half eagles. Except for 1816-7, when a fire at the Mint's outbuilding housed rolling mills preventing conversion of gold or silver ingots into strip or planchets, coinages of half eagles remained large. The Mint Director may have believed that until more banks ordered quarter eagles, there would no point in making

more dies for them. A more appropriate question is why quarter-eagle coinage was resumed at all; Archives documents fail to provide a reply. Requests to discontinue quarter-eagles continues periodically until 1932.
Abandonment of the design may reflect Scot's personal pique. Note that in 1813, Scot replaced Reich's perfectly good half-eagle design with his own capped-head type, and that in 1816 he replaced Reich's beautiful though eccentric "Classic Head" cent obverse with one of the ugliest conceptions ever to misrepresent Ms. Liberty: Possibly Scot's sight was then failing. See the Cent Books.
Whatever the causes, the 1808 is a highly coveted rarity. Survivors are under 2% of original mintage (earlier figure was 4%), possibly from weak borders' exposing the coins to undue wear.
[The above and below paraphrased, to avoid repetition and corrections, from 5 ms. versions of this date. Ed.]



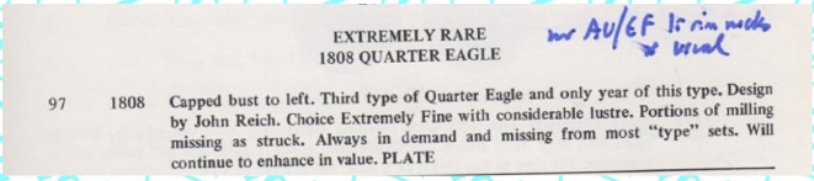
Double struck error known.
Possibly the same as above but different description by Breen: One double struck known: AU first strike obv. stars before face shows rim, cheek with nose. this desc. is in WB's annotated Ency p. 488, less detailed than above.
David S. Wilson, Clapp, Eliasberg:89, AU, $26,400. Kevin Lipton; Col. Green, Jerome Kern, Dr. Judd, Dr. Ketterman, Jimmy Hayes, Auction 84:1372, $99,000, D. Akers Unc.
Mint S.I.; CMB, S.I.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I.; Elder 9/20/1935 (B-1), N:1942, EF.



Written/revised by Breen.

NB 95:102 Byron Reed (1829-91) 1808 $2 1/2 (VF+).
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

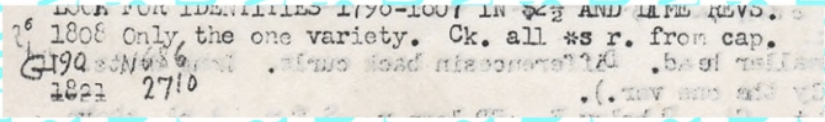
J.C. Morgenthau sale #458:786 "Faint letter M back of head and scratch at beak of eagle, otherwise extremely fine and a very good looking piece" $87.50.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1494 **VIMP** "…scratches of "E and I" in front of face…".



EXTREMELY RARE
1808 QUARTER EAGLE

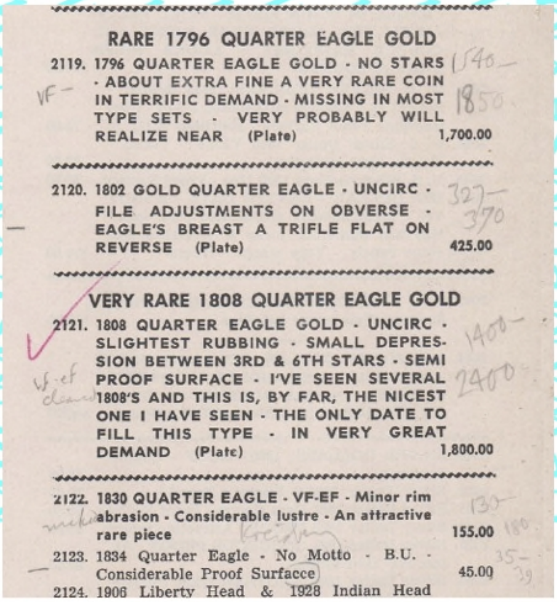
97 1808 Capped bust to left. Third type of Quarter Eagle and only year of this type. Design by John Reich. Choice Extremely Fine with considerable lustre. Portions of milling missing as struck. Always in demand and missing from most "type" sets. Will continue to enhance in value. PLATE

WB's annot. K 1/75:97 above.
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



1808 Only, the one variety. Ck. all *s r. from cap.

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.



RARE 1796 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD

2119. 1796 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD - NO STARS - ABOUT EXTRA FINE A VERY RARE COIN IN TERRIFIC DEMAND - MISSING IN MOST TYPE SETS - VERY PROBABLY WILL REALIZE NEAR (Plate) 1,700.00

2120. 1802 GOLD QUARTER EAGLE - UNCIRC - FILE ADJUSTMENTS ON OBVERSE - EAGLE'S BREAST A TRIFLE FLAT ON REVERSE (Plate) 425.00

VERY RARE 1808 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD

2121. 1808 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD - UNCIRC - SLIGHTEST RUBBING - SMALL DEPRESSION BETWEEN 3RD & 6TH STARS - SEMI PROOF SURFACE - I'VE SEEN SEVERAL 1808'S AND THIS IS, BY FAR, THE NICEST ONE I HAVE SEEN - THE ONLY DATE TO FILL THIS TYPE - IN VERY GREAT DEMAND (Plate) 1,800.00

2122. 1830 QUARTER EAGLE - VF-EF - Minor rim abrasion - Considerable lustre - An attractive rare piece 155.00

2123. 1834 Quarter Eagle - No Motto - B.U. - Considerable Proof Surface 45.00

2124. 1906 Liberty Head & 1928 Indian Head

WB's annot. 1959 ANA:2121 vf-ef cleaned, above.

Mehl 6/1941:1913 …light nick on obverse right stars. EF. … .

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1821 Scot's Capped Head

Physical specifications as before except
Diameter 3/4" = 19 mm approximately.
Ill. is a **proof**.





FOURTH DESIGN (1821-27): Same type as the half eagles of 1813-29 I. Small capped head left (no drapery); redrawn eagle of vaguely similar design. Weight as before; diameter reduced, now 12 to 12½ /16" = 19 to 19.5 mm. By Robert Scot.

1 8 2 1

[6,448]

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-687

Obv. Last star nearer to date than on later dates of this design. Date punches same as on the small stars dimes.

Rev. Only the one die. Base of U below arc line of NITED. Final S in STATES above first U in UNUM and space to left. Large 2 distant from leaf, its r. side under tip of arrow feather, its top about in line with fraction bar. Numerator and denom inator both well away from bar. Stem ends above r. side of upright of D.

Die states. I. With traces of base arc lines (guide lines) between words. II. The arc lines are no longer visible.

$2.50 1821 :19:

R-5. Generally found in Fine to EF, with a few AU and at least four mint state examples. Rarer than its mintage suggests because of wholesale meltings in the late 1820's--30's. After Aug. 1, 1834, all "old tenor" gold was officially worth over face value.

Proofs. The following are traced (all = State I):

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection, saved by Adam Eckfeldt from the year of issue.
2. Bliasberg, almost certainly ex Randall 968 (?), Parmelee 931, Woodin 939, "Memorable" 86.
3. Mills 537, choice. Possibly the piece recently seen at two or three ANA conventions.
4. D.S.Wilson 165 (1907). SMall planchet defect on jaw, convex to upper left.
5. Gable 368 (1914). Small obv. scratch.

Occasion unknown, possibly the resumption of the denomination.

The Dr. Clifford Smith 1825 coin is probably one of these.

Proof: 1) S.I. see Clain-Stefanelli {1970}, figure 20. By 1990 Breen knew of 7 **proofs**. [See also **P** bk. ms.].
1) Mint, S.I.. 2) Eliasberg ex Parmelee:931, Elder 11/1911 plate Woodin:939, "Memorable":86. 3) Mills:3(5?)37, choice. 4) D.S. Wilson:165 (1907), small curved planchet defect on jaw, convex to upper left. 5) Gable:368 (1914), small obv. scratch. 6) Dr. Clifford Smith:1495. Possibly same as one above.
Personal communication to WB from ? 16, Nov. 1966: David S. Wilson, Esq. Mar 13 & 14, 1907 S.H. Chapman $2 1/2: 1821 **Pf**, Brill lot 165, plated slight defect on jaw. See **Proof** update below.



HB 1-A.

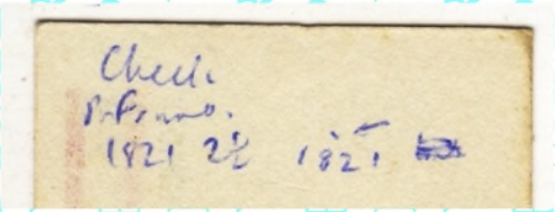
GRADING STANDARDS: 1821-27. As 1808, though without peculiar weakness of that date. Beware all dates with solder removal as these were popular for jewelry use.

A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I.; Elder 6/22/1935, N:1943, AU proof-like.
Mint, S.I. 4.376 gms. is 180 degrees rotated reverse.

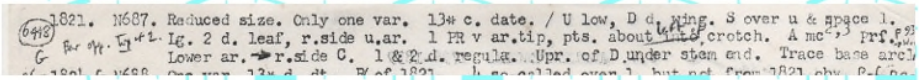
About 30-50 survive.

1821-27. Robert Scot (then 77 years old and with failing eyesight, but secure in his life tenure as Engraver) devised crude copies of his 1813 half-eagle design, and hastily translated them into one working device punch for head and another for eagle with scroll, thence into working dies. The coins were

smaller (19 mm. as against the former 20.6), but minutely thicker to preserve their weight unchanged. Letter punches were by Henry Starr.
Two obverse dies, one unused and saved until 1824 (see 1924/1)
Proof update: Arc lines on earliest business strikes (fade); bs often show tiny cheek depression from foreign matter adhering to die. Most have small curved mark on cheek from foreign matter adhering to die. G.W. Cogan 7/15/1882 became Garrett:743 $120K. Woodin:939, Bell, "Memorable":86. Wilson & Gable are same coin.



No number NB, from the early 1950's File Misc. AV notes p.23, $2 1/2.
"H.R.Lee" S 10/47:995 "[…]Extremely Fine, attempted puncture above cap…" $75.00.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:92 'U'—:93 'AU'.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See original ms. by WB in Bibliography below for additional information.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1495 for WB's comments on this "**Proof**".
Proof: 1974 Graves sale $23,000.00.
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.


1821. N687. Reduced size. Only one var. 13+ c. date. / U low, D d. wing. S over u & space l.
lg. 2 d. leaf, r.side u.ar. l PR v ar.tip, pts. about into crotch. A mc Prf.
Lower ar. → r.side C. l & 2 d. regula. Upr. of D under stem end. Trace base arcl

B&W copy above is superior to color original.

1824



Ill's are 1824/1.

1 8 2 4

[2,600, Jan. 30.]

Always described as "over 21," but overdate is never plain.

1. Old L
A-1, C-1, N-688.

Obv. Last star much farther from date than in the 1821. The 4 is over a 1, but this is obviously not the same die used in 1821. Look on the upper ~~xxxx~~ edge of diagonal of 4, (and within top of triangle) using a strong glass, and you may find ~~a~~ parts of ~~minute tip of~~ serif of 1--never more than that.

Rev. Same as last.

Die states. On later struck coins the overdate is no longer visible.

R-5. Not much rarer than the 1821. Usually comes VF to EF; at least three mint state examples reported.

$2.50 1824 :20:

Proofs. The following are traced:

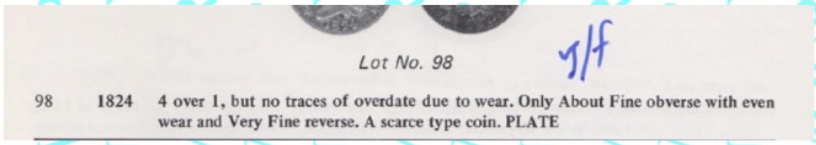
1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection, from Adam Eckfeldt.
2. Present owner unknown, ex Woodin 940, ex Cleneay coll. (1890), obv. perfect proof, rev. with mint frost. Ronnie McCarr reported seeing it in a private collection in the 1960's. Such "one-sided" proofs are documented for a variety of dates and denominations in the 1820's and 30's and occasionally later.
3. Present owner unknown, ex Adolphe Menjou coll., ex H.P.Smith (privately), ex Parmelee 952, ex Randall 969 (1885).
4. Winsor 506 (1895), "slight double profile." Not seen in recent years.

As proofs were normally given two to four blows from the dies to bring design up in exceptional clarity, it is hardly surprising that an occasional example would show minute misalignment between successive blows. I have seen ~~xx~~ 1821 and 1833 proof cents with minute but unmistakable evidence of all four blows. Occasion for manufacture of these proofs is unknown.

Proof in S.I cleaned, rev. rotated 180 degrees, 4.384 gms.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I. 170 degrees. [See also **P** bk. ms.].

Proof #2: Ex. Cleneay in W.H.Woodin Elder Sale 11/1911:940, plate.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rapaport-Field:1857-8 2 4/1, 'S U'nc. (1st AU). Misc. AV notes p.12
Elder 10/25/1935 'AU'.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
For additional information on 'one-sided **proof**' see original ms. within Bibliography below.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1495 for WB's comments on the '[…]former "**Proof**",[…].'

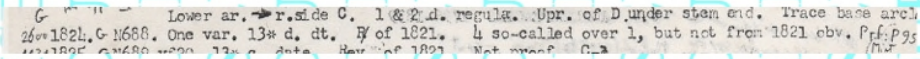


Lot No. 98 7/f

98 1824 4 over 1, but no traces of overdate due to wear. Only About Fine obverse with even wear and Very Fine reverse. A scarce type coin. PLATE

WB's annot. K 1/75:98 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

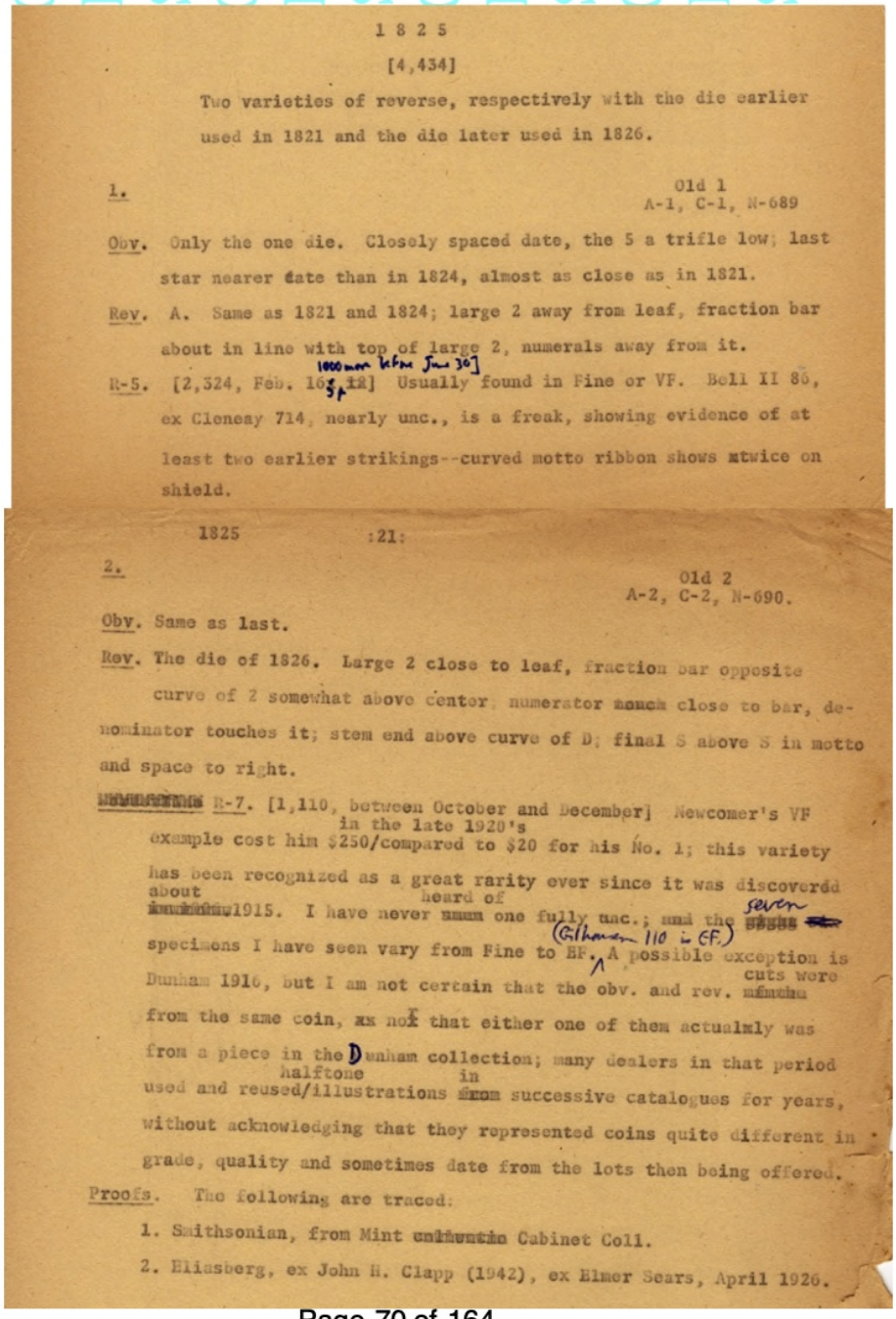


Lower ar. → r.side C. 1 & 2 d. regula. Upr. of D under stem end. Trace base arch
26v 1824, G-1688. One var. 13* d. dt. R of 1821. 4 so-called over 1, but not from 1821 obv. Pr. P95

Above B&W copy is superior to original color scan.
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1825

In the mid-1960's Breen found [who was source?] information (reportedly) to a second obv. die was altered for 1826 by Kneass so effectively that at most a microscopic corner of 5 shows at upper left of 6 and often not even that; its overdate status has been disputed. It must have been made long after its brother of 1825, as it has larger stars as in 1827.



1 8 2 5

[4,434]

Two varieties of reverse, respectively with the die earlier used in 1821 and the die later used in 1826.

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-689

Obv. Only the one die. Closely spaced date, the 5 a trifle low; last star nearer date than in 1824, almost as close as in 1821.

Rev. A. Same as 1821 and 1824; large 2 away from leaf, fraction bar about in line with top of large 2, numerals away from it.

R-5. [2,324, Feb. 16, 18] Usually found in Fine or VF. Bell II 86, ex Cleneay 714, nearly unc., is a freak, showing evidence of at least two earlier strikings--curved motto ribbon shows twice on shield.

1825 :21:

2. Old 2
A-2, C-2, N-690.

Obv. Same as last.

Rev. The die of 1826. Large 2 close to leaf, fraction bar opposite curve of 2 somewhat above center, numerator much close to bar, denominator touches it; stem end above curve of D; final S above S in motto and space to right.

R-7. [1,110, between October and December] Newcomer's VF example cost him $250/compared to $20 for his No. 1; this variety has been recognized as a great rarity ever since it was discovered about 1915. I have never one fully unc.; and the seven specimens I have seen vary from Fine to EF. A possible exception is Dunham 1916, but I am not certain that the obv. and rev. cuts were from the same coin, nor that either one of them actually was from a piece in the Dunham collection; many dealers in that period used and reused halftone illustrations in successive catalogues for years, without acknowledging that they represented coins quite different in grade, quality and sometimes date from the lots then being offered.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Coll.
2. Eliasberg, ex John H. Clapp (1942), ex Elmer Sears, April 1926.

Reverse clarification (ca. 1985): First rev. is the die of 1821-4: [3,324] Feb. 16-June 30 small denominator, distant fraction; second is that of 1826-7: [1,110] Oct.-Dec. 1825. This second variety, discovered about 1915 by Waldo Newcomer, has larger denominator, close fraction, large 2 close to leaf, fraction bar opposite a point a little above center of 2, stem end directly above curve of D rather than above its upright. It remains very rare despite decades of examination of 1825's; possibly 8-10 survive.

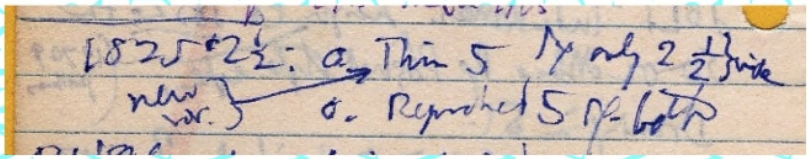


Reverse die of 1826.



Ill. is a **proof**. 1) S.I.; 2) Bell 1944; Elmer Sears, 4/1926, J.H.Clapp, 1942. 3) Impaired, above: Breen 2, C-2, polished, marks on cheek, dig between stars

3-4. One of the above is Gaylord:102, ex Bell I, or a third? [2?]. [See also **P** bk. ms.].



NB C:174. New varieties: 1) Thin 5, rev. only 2 1/2 wide. 2) Repunched 5, rev. both.

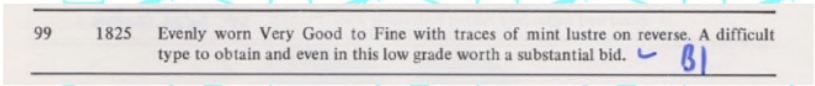
Distant fraction [3,324] Often weak on head. Later rev. crack, usual, HB2-1821A; 5 reported. One proof in S.I.; 'A.DuPont', Lilly, S.I. Unc.. Carter:538, Unc., $17,600, R.L. Hughes.

Close fraction [1,110 + ?P] 2 proofs reported; possibly 8-10 business strikes, coined Oct.-Dec. 1825. HB 2-B = rev. 1827.

Thin 5 = HB 1-1821A, rev. double struck, 2 high, base above 8-5. Ex rare.

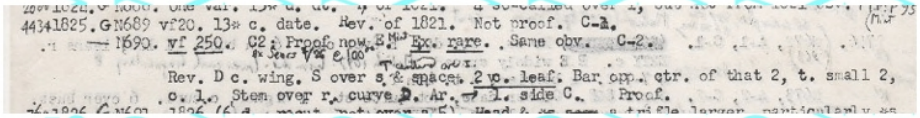
IMPORTANT In Breen's annotated Encylopedia {1988} he questioned the illustration 6129 1825 Ex J.W. Garrett:746: "? diff obv from mint 6128"

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1497 for WB's comments.
ms. FCI Descriptions of New Varieties {1977} (1/1976-4/77) Breen 1. Wide fraction. Sharpness nearly EF, surfaces matte from skil[l]ful repairs. Better looking than it sounds. B0009.
BMM A. Carter 10/55:94 'U…semi-proof.'
Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Annotation** WB.


99 1825 Evenly worn Very Good to Fine with traces of mint lustre on reverse. A difficult type to obtain and even in this low grade worth a substantial bid.

WB''s annot. K 1/75:99 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy superior in detail with color original scan.

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1826

[760]

1826

[760, March 31]

Always catalogued as an overdate, "1826/25," though no trace of 5 is visible. The low mintage has made this date famous, though it is not nearly as rare as some others. Only the one variety; the "Adams-2" reported many years ago, with slanting fraction bar, proved to be a holed, plugged and re-engraved example of no. 1.





See 1825 for altered 1825/6 die.





Look at 6, outside upper left, for vestiges of a ‘possible’ 5.




$2.50 1826 :22:

1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-692

Obv. Stars larger than formerly. Head also looks a little larger and bolder than on 1821-25--probably a heavier impression of the same hub. Double punched 6, first high, then corrected lower. On the very earliest impressions, a minute corner shows at upper left (Gilhousen 111), though never any other hint of a 5.

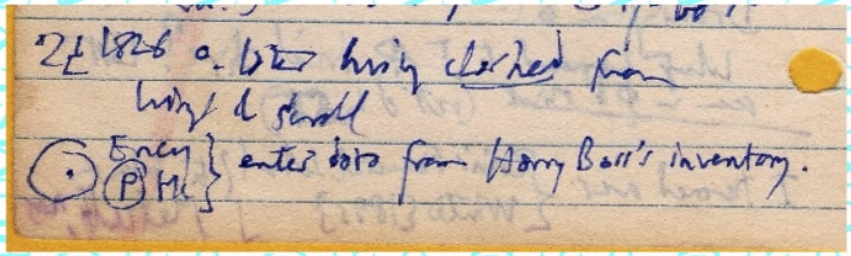
Rev. Die of 1825 no. 2 and 1827.

Die states. Recutting fades from the 6. Clash marks often from scroll in obv. fields, and from head around eagle.

R-6 high, possibly borderline R-7. At least two more or less unc.: Davis-Graves 676, xGrant Pierce 1081(reappearing as Miles 93).A third, Earle 2514, is just short of unc., with a small mint clip plainest above head. In the Stickney sale (1907), Henry Chapman claimed that about seven were known to exist. I would be more inclined to agree had he said a dozen.

Proofs. We can be reasonably sure of one: Neil 2405, not seen in recent years--probably the one known to Wayte Raymond. This is believed to be the finer of the two handled by the Kagins--lot 877, their 228th sale, Sept. 12, 1959. They had another alleged proof with light handling marks: lot 121, their 218th sale (May 31, 1958), reappearing as lot 233, their 227th sale, Aug. 1, 1969. If this latter is not actually a proof (I have not seen it), it is probably one of the two top grade specimens earlier mentioned. I have not heard of another, nor had Edgar Adams. Either the Mint Coll. never had one, or theirs was long since traded away, as the one now in the Smithsonian came to the Mint Coll. from H.P.Newlin, Dec. 15, 1885.

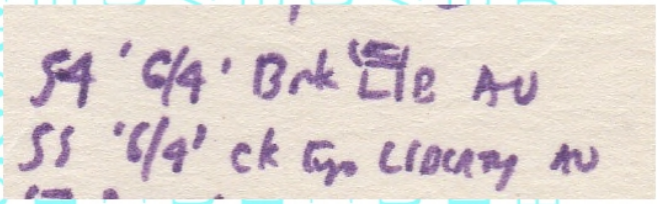
Proof #3) Newlin, 12/15/1885, Mint, S.I.,; is this a proof? [See also **P** bk. ms. Three pieces.].



NB C:174: Later heavily clashed from wings & scroll.

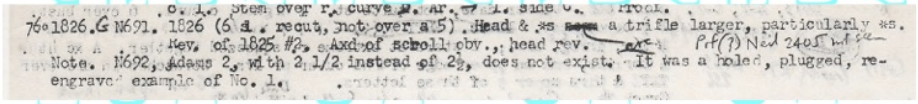
Pierce, Miles, Ullmer:359, Unc., $14,500 (1974); Auction 79:225, Unc., $31,000. "A. DuPont", Lilly, S.I. 1650 4.345 gms.
Proofs: Possibly 3 survive (ca. 1985). Mint, S.I., 170 degrees rotated rev., 4.385 gms.

HB 1-1825B later obv. & rev. clashed.
BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1854 Break rim to tops LI(B). 'AU'. —:1855 Crack tops LIBERTY 'AU'. 1859-60 '26, 7 Unc.-. Misc. AV notes p.12.
—:1859-60 1826, 1827 respectively 'U'.



NB 95:102 Byron Reed (1829-91) $2 1/2 EF-AU.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:998 "1826 Over 5[…]Extremely Fine with some proof surface. This is the Curtis specimen[…] $200.00.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:95 'U[…]brilliant mint luster.'
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1498 for WB's comments.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

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1827

:23:

1 8 2 7

[2,800, Feb. 19]

1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-693

Obv. Similar to the 1826, last star a trifle closer to date. Light recutting on the 7, but this quickly fades or wears away or is repolished off the die. Usually bluntly struck.

Rev. Same as 1825 B and 1826. Usually bluntly struck, details rather infdefinite under the mint lustre even on the best ones.

R-5. About as rare as the 1824. Mills 541 is probably the best unc. one around; I have seen three with some claims to mint state, more or less, but about all three there is possible dispute on grading owing to uneven striking or nicks.

Proofs. So rare that its existence has long been controversial. The solitary piece alluded to in the original monograph, not located in recent years, was from the Cleneay collection, later Woodin 943; obv. proof, rev. unc.

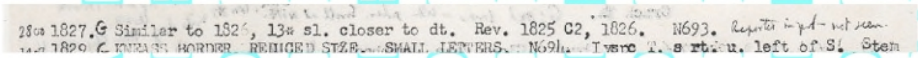
Proof [see **P** bk. ms.].
See important catalog JCM 278th lot 217.in Bibliography below "[EF] […]beautiful sharp impression[…]", $105.
Usually weak on head.
Carter:540, Unc., $17,600.
HB1-1825B rev. lapped to efface clash marks.
Two in S.I.



About 30-50 survive.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field: 1859-60 ’26, 7 Unc.- Misc. AV notes p.12.
BMM Farouk 2/1954 (B-1).
JCM#311, 10/18/33:153 Unc. $125.00 Plate.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1499 for WB’s comments.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
See Bibliography below, original ms. for information on 1827 ‘one-sided-proof’.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy is superior to original color scan.

Revised Statutes Act 6/22/1874 section 3548: “The brass troy weight was procured by the Minister of US at London[…]shall be the standard troy pound of the Mint of the US[…]”.

1829 Kneass' Modified Capped Head 1829-34.







FIFTH DESIGN (1829-34): Modification of previous types. Stars smaller, beaded border surrounded by a high raised rim, head and eagle slightly modified in being redrawn by Kneass, letters smaller. Flans are thicker. From now on, struck in a "close collar" which compressed the flans at striking, imparting to them a reeded edge of complete uniformity, and an equal diameter, here 3/4" = 19 mm. Weight as before. By William Kneass.

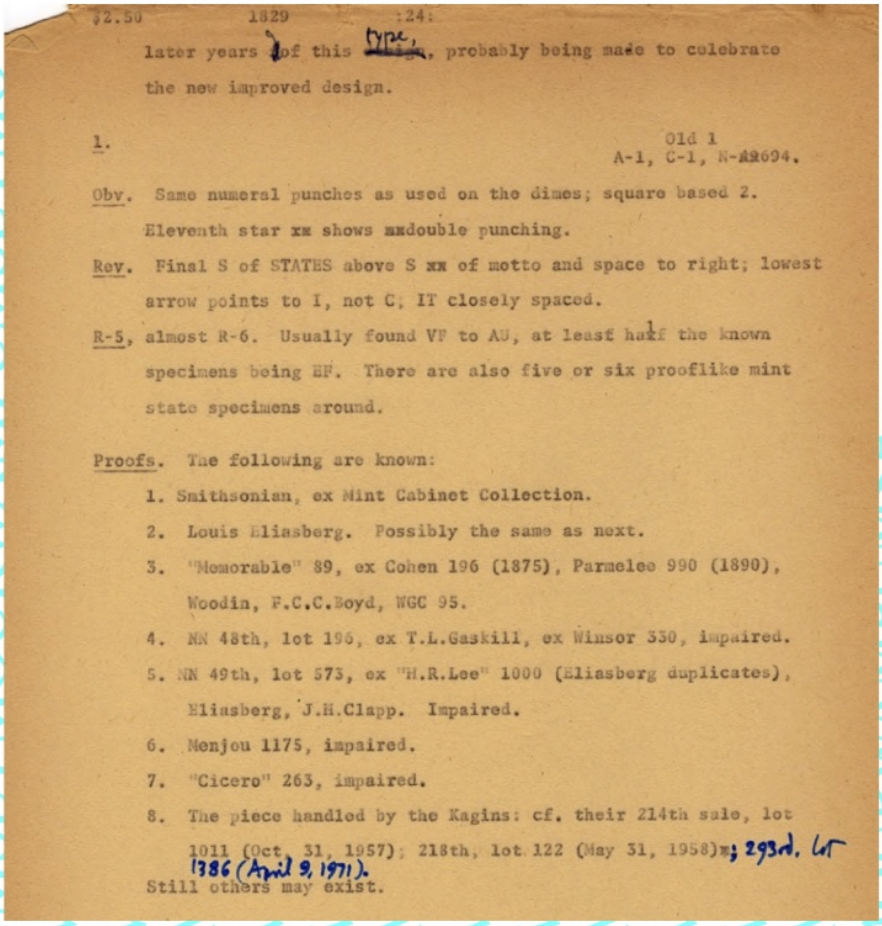
1 8 2 9

[3,403, Feb. 9.]

The coins of 1829-33 are approximately equal in mintage and rarity; the same obverse and reverse dies used on proofs and uncs. each year, there being only one variety of the year. There are, however, more proofs of 1829 than of any of the







$2.50 1829 :24:

later years of this type, probably being made to celebrate the new improved design.

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-A2694.

Obv. Same numeral punches as used on the dimes; square based 2. Eleventh star xx shows xxdouble punching.

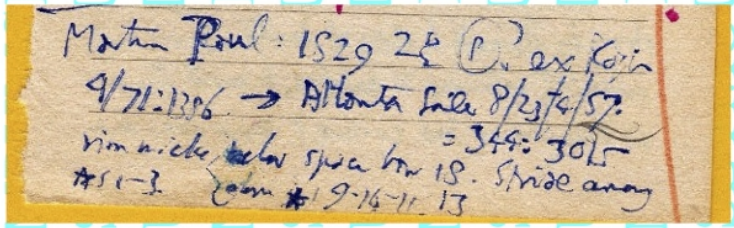
Rev. Final S of STATES above S xx of motto and space to right; lowest arrow points to I, not C, IT closely spaced.

R-5, almost R-6. Usually found VF to AU, at least half the known specimens being EF. There are also five or six prooflike mint state specimens around.

Proofs. The following are known:

1. Smithsonian, ex Mint Cabinet Collection.
2. Louis Eliasberg. Possibly the same as next.
3. "Memorable" 89, ex Cohen 196 (1875), Parmelee 990 (1890), Woodin, F.C.C.Boyd, WGC 95.
4. NN 48th, lot 196, ex T.L.Gaskill, ex Winsor 330, impaired.
5. NN 49th, lot 573, ex "H.R.Lee" 1000 (Eliasberg duplicates), Eliasberg, J.H.Clapp. Impaired.
6. Menjou 1175, impaired.
7. "Cicero" 263, impaired.
8. The piece handled by the Kagins: cf. their 214th sale, lot 1011 (Oct. 31, 1957); 218th, lot 122 (May 31, 1958); 293rd. lot 1386 (April 9, 1971).

Still others may exist.



Martin Paul: 1529 2½ (P) ex Kosoff
9/71: 1386 → Atlanta Sale 8/23/74/57.
= 344: 305
rim nick between space btw 18. Striae stars 1-3
#s 1-3 Cohen #1 9-16-71 13

NB 77:63 **Proof** […]rim nick space between 18. Striae stars 1-3[…]Atlanta sale[…]Proofs were struck for new design; unusually large number. [See also **P** bk. ms.: Seven known plus one other possible].

Unc. Auction 85:__ $35,200; Auction 87:382; Auction 79:765, Unc., $17,000; Carter:541, Unc., $14,300; Garrett:1980, Proof, $105,000; Proof Mint, S.I.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I. Unc..

Proof 7) "Cicero" 236 was in NN 55:263, EF but obviously had been a proof, Breen wrote this catalog.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:1000 1829 A beautiful Brilliant proof with a wire edge, just like it left the mint. […]" $100.00.
BMM A.Carter 10/55:97 'Semi-proof.'
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.
KS 4/3-4/59:2603 "Considerable proof surface. […]Plate".
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1500 for WB's comments.
WB noted one in Eliasberg coll.
For Auc '85 see Bib. below: NB 56:164-5.
GRADING STANDARDS 1829-34. Grade range F to Unc., most often VF-AU. Grade standards, as before, (1808, 1821-27) but without the peculiarities of 1808.

After Robert Scot died in 1823, the Mint hired William Kneass, a local engraver of bank-note plates, as his successor. Kneass' special assignment was not to create new designs but to improve existing designs of all series in his spare time, by mechanically multiplying working dies from current device punches. This project yielded modified designs for dismes in 1828, followed in 1829 by similar improved versions of half dismes, quarter eagles, and half eagles, and in 1831 by their counterparts in half cents and quarter dollars. Cents and half dollars would not be attempted for several years, there was still too much demand for coinage in theses denominations to afford time to create new device punches.
Kneass' modified designs were notable for smaller stars and letters (from punches made by Gobrecht), redrawn heads and eagles (with a more professional look than Scot's frequently crude conceptions), but most of all for beaded borders surrounded by high, plain raised rims produced by a "close collar." This new invention consisted of a heavy block of steel containing a hole the same diameter as the finished coin, grooved to impart the reeded edge; this resisted edgewise expansion of planchets at the moment of striking, furnishing "a mathematical equality to their diameters," acto Mint Director Samuel More. See 1829 Half-Eagle for more details.

Mintages remained of roughly the same quantities as before; survivors are sightly rarer, and occur in about the same grade range, with perhaps a few more Unc's.. Die life was potentially much longer; a single reverse of 1830 stayed in use for proofs and business strikes through 1834—but there was too little bank demand for quarter eagles in any one year to exhaust the effective life of any one obv. die, so that for each year there is only one variety.
BMM 3/23/48:3487 $59.00.
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

3403 1829. G KNEASS BORDER, REDUCED SIZE. SMALL LETTERS. N694. I, spc T, s rt. u. left of S. Stem over c. D. IT close.
1540 1830 G N695. Similar obv. / U recut at left. I c. under T, S c. under S. A IC. 2nd ar.

This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.

1830





$2.50 1833 :27:

end of
distant from/bust, 6th above top of cap, 13th practically touches curl; 18 lean right.

Rev. Identical to last. Recutting on U now weak.

R-5. Neither appreciably rarer nor appreciably commoner than 1831-32. Same grade range.

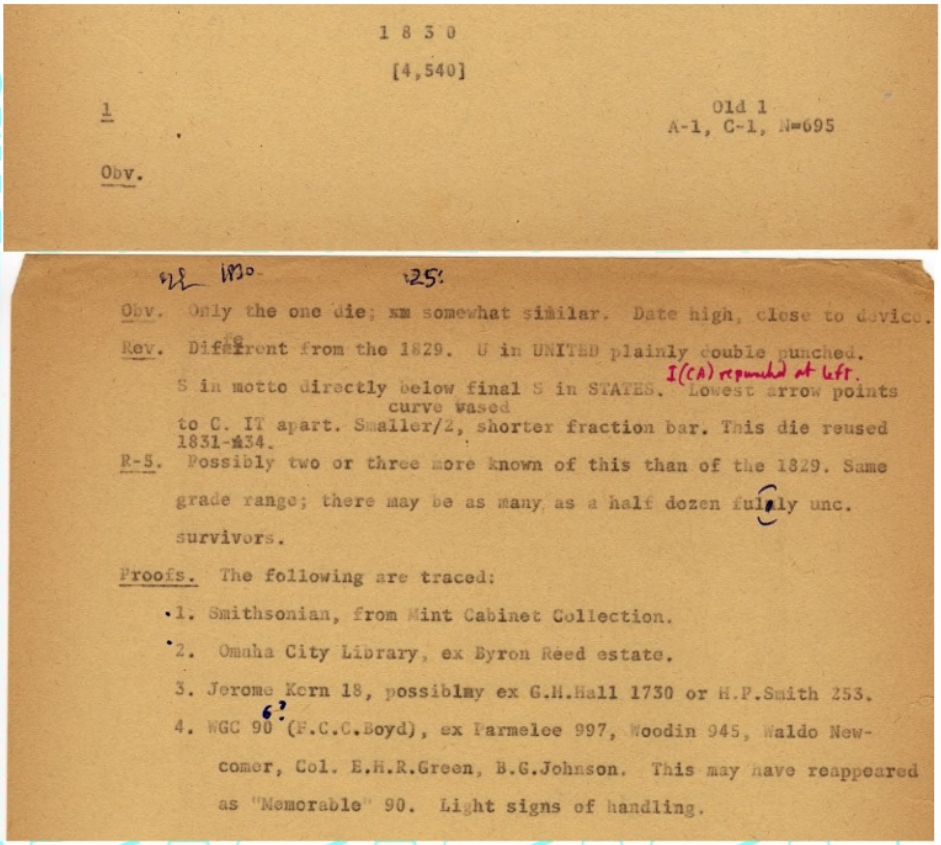
Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection.
2. Private coll., seen in NYCM in the 1950x's, ex Mills 546, ex Parmelee 1022. Choice. Possibly Davis-Graves 682, G.H.Hall 1732.
3. "Memorable" 93, ex Woodin, Newcomer, Col. Green, B.G.Johnson and various dealer intermediaries. Possibly originally Gable 376. Hairmarked, some handling marks.

At least two others reported.

Though it is as yet impossible to know if the coins were dated 1831, '32 or '33, or if in fact any survived the melting pot, there were six experimental pieces struck and sent to a congressional committee studying coinage reform proposals (eventually to become the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837). They were distinguished by one to six minute points impressed above the eagle's head. They are identifiable by color and weight, if any survive.

1. Pure unalloyed gold. Wt. 61.875 grains.
2. Gold alloyed with silver only: 67.5 grains standard = 61.875 grains gold, 5.625 gr. silver. Pale compared with the regular issue.
3. Gold alloyed with equal parts silver and copper: 61.875 grains gold, 2.8125 each of silver and copper, total 67.5 grains.
4. Gold alloyed with copper only: 67.5 grain total, proportions as in no. 2. This is reddish compared with regular issue.
5. Gold alloyed with equal parts silver and copper: 66 grains



1830

[4,540]

1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N=695

Obv.

22 1830 25:

Obv. Only the one die; ~~xx~~ somewhat similar. Date high, close to device.

Rev. Different from the 1829. U in UNITED plainly double punched. I(CA) repunched at left.
S in motto directly below final S in STATES. Lowest arrow points curve based
to C. IT apart. Smaller/2, shorter fraction bar. This die reused 1831-~~34~~.

R-5. Possibly two or three more known of this than of the 1829. Same grade range; there may be as many as a half dozen fully unc. survivors.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection.
2. Omaha City Library, ex Byron Reed estate.
3. Jerome Kern 18, possiblmy ex G.H.Hall 1730 or H.P.Smith 253.
4. WGC 90 (F.C.C.Boyd), ex Parmelee 997, Woodin 945, Waldo Newcomer, Col. E.H.R.Green, B.G.Johnson. This may have reappeared as "Memorable" 90. Light signs of handling.

Proof A reverse first made proofs, then 4,540 uncirculated coins, then repolished for proofs of 1831. See 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834.

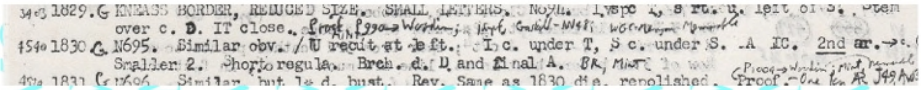


Proof 4 may have reappeared as H.R. 11/69:397, $2,900..[See also **P** bk. ms.].

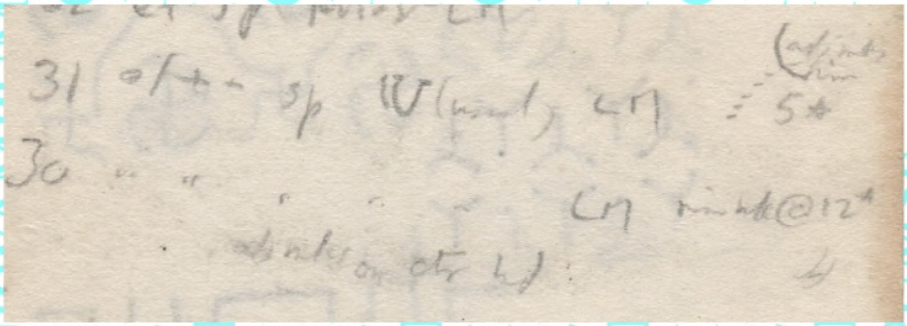
Research in the Archives (1951-2) 207-46 RMD 1/12 1830 dated 1/1/31 126351 $2 1/2 [4540].

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1501 **VIMP**. "…dent…".

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.



NB:WBV#7p.4 Above. Die markers, see also 1831 below.

"H. R. Lee" S 10/47:1001 "1830 Brilliant proof…" $85.00.
JCM #458 'U' to WR $57.00.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

1831

Proof. See 1830, 1832, 1833, 1834. A 1830 reverse was repolished, a *second* time, made proofs, then placed in the regular press and struck 4520 business strikes. [See also **P** bk. ms.eight known.].







1 8 3 1

[4,520]

1. Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-696

Obv. Only the one variety. Similar, but first star farther from bust.

Rev. The repolished die of 1830.

R-5. About as rare as the 1830. Same grade range.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Coll.
2. ANS.
3. Ex Ronnie Carr. This may be same as 4, 5 or 6.
4. Davis-Graves 680.
5. "Memorable" 91, ex Randall 975 (1885), Parmelee 1004, Woodin 946; may have reappeared as Grant Pierce 1085 at $3000.
6. The piece [illegible] handled by the Kagins.

$2.50 1831 :26:

7. Bell II 91 (1963). Impaired.

Compare also Stickney 739, Earle 2519 (hairmarked). Melish 1118, claimed to be a proof, turned out to be a gem first strike. There is also a silver impresssion (on a dime blank?): Adams-Woodin 39, Judd 49; purpose unknown, if indeed it was not a mint error[illegible].

HB1-1831-A.



Business strikes are mostly EF-AU or better.

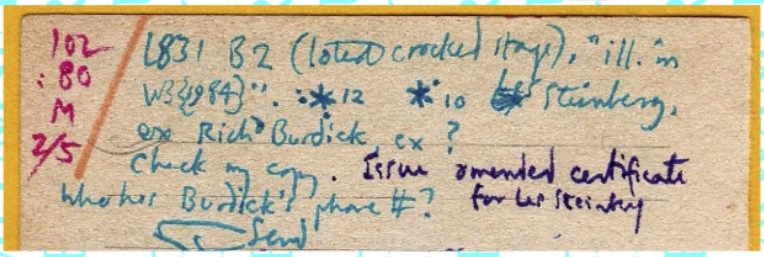
A gold **proof** set was known in the 1950's.
At least 8 **proofs**, 4 with minor impairment; Stickney, Clapp, Eliasberg:97, $38,800, D. Kagin; Bell II:91 imp.; Golden II:1774; Dr. Smith:1502; ? which is Stickney:739, Earle:2519 (hairmarked). Melish:1118 turned out to be a fairly deceptive early business strike.[…].

Ill. is a **proof**.

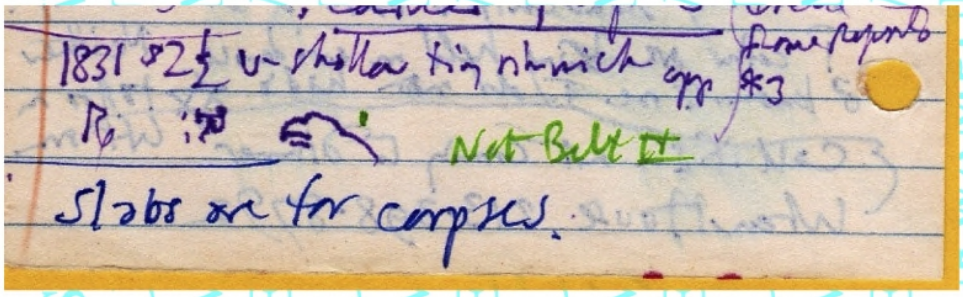




Breen 1, C-1.



Second die variety discovered.



Third die variety. NB93:160.

Slabs are for corpses. WB's opinion of slabbed coins.

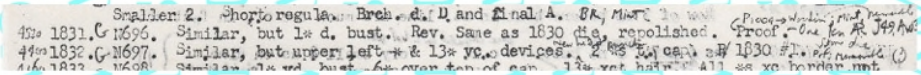
Variety **four**: rusty obv. die. See Artyfact 1830 above.

RitA (1951-2) 217-57 RDM 1831 1/16 dated 1/1/31 140504 $2 1/2 [4520].
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1502 for comments by WB on the "**Proof**".

Judd 3rd: Quarter Eagle. Regular dies trial piece. #49 Silver, reeded edge. (A-W 39). Unique. From the same dies as Proofs. Annot by WB: Dr. Judd collection.
BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1863 '31 Unc.. Misc. AV notes p.12.
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

1941 ANA:648 **Proof**.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.


Smaller 2. Shorter regula... Brch. d. D and final A. BR Mint
1831. G M696. Similar, but 1* d. bust. Rev. Same as 1830 die, repolished. Proof. One
1832. G M697. Similar, but upper left * & 13* yc. devices. 2 *s

This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.

1832 Modified Head

Proof Ill. right. See 1830, 1831, 1833, 1834. The same reverse of 1830 was used for proofs, then struck 4400 business strikes.[See also **P** bk. ms.].



1 8 3 2

[4,400)

Modified head in higher relief than 1829-31, continuing through 1854 with motto. There are noticeable differences in the curls compared with 1829-31; they are plainest above the date and below LIBE, but they are very difficult to describe.

1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-697

Obv. Modified head. Only the one die for this year. Two stars (7th, 8th) touch cap, another ((8)) is very close.

Rev. Identical to 1830-31, still showing some recutting on U.

R-5. About as rare as 1831. Same grade range.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. "Memorable" 92, hairmarked on cheek. May be a reappearance of any of the following?
2. Maris 17a (1886), ex Winslow Lewis.
3. Ex Mendes I. Cohen sale, lot 199 (1875), said to be choice.
4. Woodin 947, ex R. Coulton Davis. Small nick.

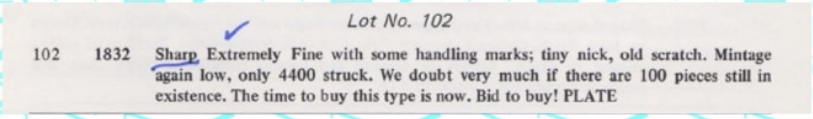


Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. Uncirculated.

RitA (1951-2) 234-54 RDM 1832 1/19 dated 1/15/33 157487 [4400].

NB:WBV#6 p. 4 ef sp[semi prooflike] (Tobias)-LM.
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:1003 "1832 A small cut on face, and scratches on neck[…]." $40.00.

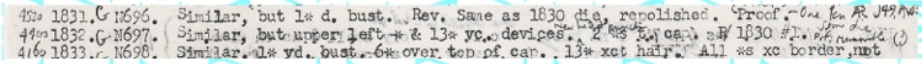
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.



Lot No. 102

102 1832 Sharp Extremely Fine with some handling marks; tiny nick, old scratch. Mintage again low, only 4400 struck. We doubt very much if there are 100 pieces still in existence. The time to buy this type is now. Bid to buy! PLATE

WB's annot. K 1/75:102 above.
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



43a 1831. G N696. Similar, but l* d. bust. Rev. Same as 1830 die, repolished. Proof. One [illegible]
44a 1832. G N697. Similar, but upper left * & l3* yc. devices. 2 *s b.[illegible] cap. as 1830 #1.
44b 1833. G N698. Similar. l* yd. bust. 6* over top of car. l3* xct hair. All *s xc border, nut

This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.

1833

1 8 3 3

(4,160]

1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-698

Obv. Date from the dime punches, with the imperfect 3's (knobs joined). Stars extremely close to border and unevenly spaced, first very



Ill. above is a **proof**. HB1-1830A



Ill. is AU.



Proof See 1830, 1831, 1832, 1834. The same 1830 reverse repolished a fourth time and struck proofs, then was used to strike 4,160 business coins. [See also **P** bk. ms.].

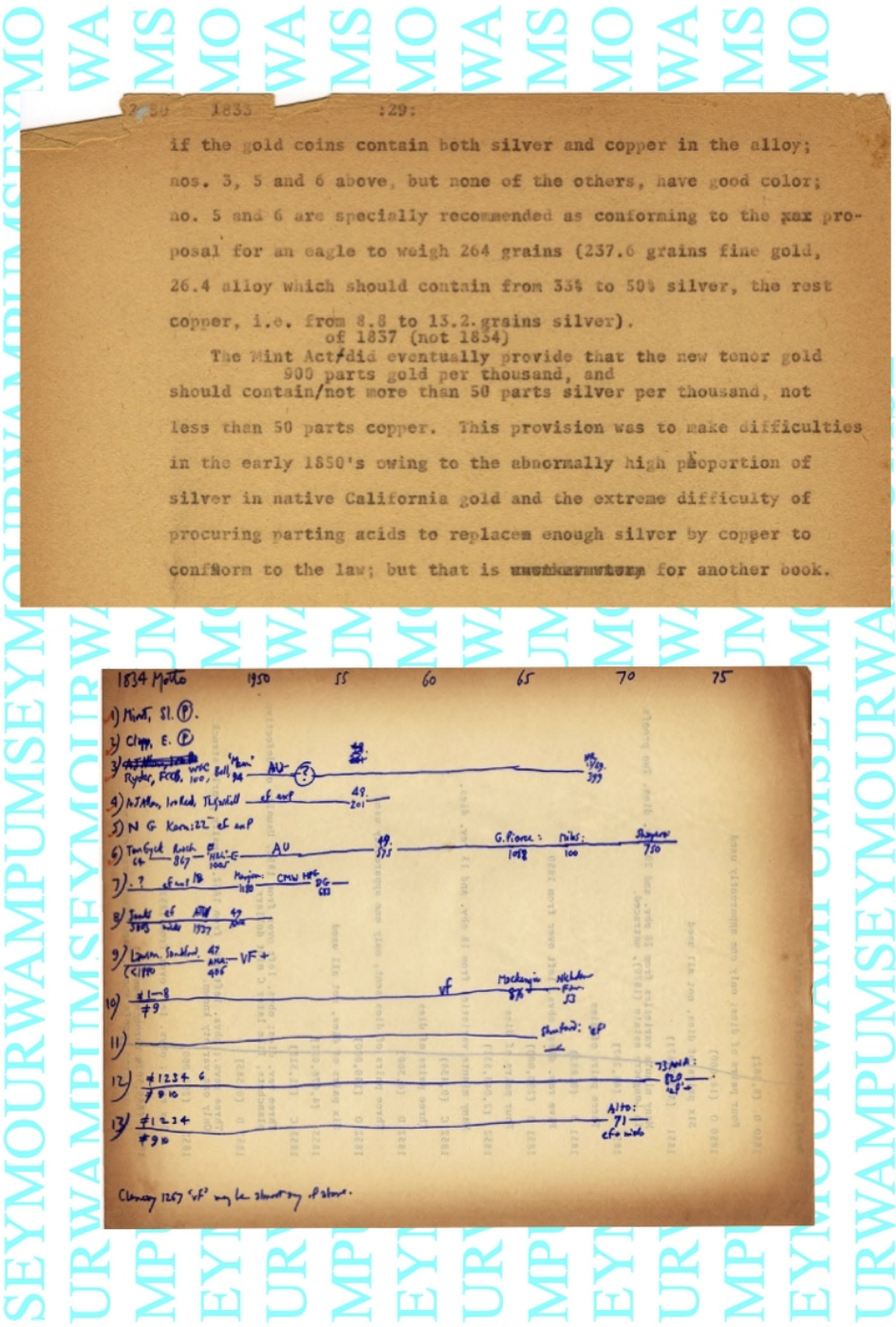
total, consisting of 59.4 grains gold, 3.3 silver, 3.3 copper. This total weight was in conformity to the Director's new proposal.

6. Gold alloyed as in no. 5 but with twice as much copper as silver: 66 grain total = 59.4 gold, 2.2 silver, 4.4 copper.

The above six specimens may well exist in private hands or estates, since they were actually delivered to the committee. The weight and appearance as described should distinguish them from any other quarter eagles with small round nicks above eagle's head. The accompanying letter (partly quoted in Judd, U.S.Patterns, Experimental and Trial Pieces, 19) is from Congressional papers, 16th Congress, 1st Session, Serial Set 254-8: Special Report of the Director of the Mint, prepared Dec. 2, 1833 and submitted the following day, pursuant to Committee resolution of the previous March 18. In this lengthy report, the Director recommended a change from 15:1 to 15.625:1, by reducing the weight of pure gold in each coin compared to the weight of alloy; a seignorage charge for coining bullion; a charge on certain assays; reforms in the percentage of error permitted in assays; establishing the weight of the copper cent at 168 grains by law rather than by presidential order, and allowing it legal tender status up to 10¢. (This last was ignored; copper cents were never legal tender during the entire period of their mintage, though they are legal tender now by an obscure act some years wago which specified that all U.S. coinages, current and uncurrent and obsolete, of wall denominations and years, henceforth would be legal tender.) In this document the letter transmitting the quarter eagles is dated "January 11, 1832," which is believed to be a typographical error for 1833.

His recommendations about the above six sample quarter eagles were as follows: Color and wearing properties are much improved

See Breen's annotated Judd 3rd below.



if the gold coins contain both silver and copper in the alloy; nos. 3, 5 and 6 above, but none of the others, have good color; no. 5 and 6 are specially recommended as conforming to the xxx proposal for an eagle to weigh 264 grains (237.6 grains fine gold, 26.4 alloy which should contain from 33% to 50% silver, the rest copper, i.e. from 8.8 to 13.2 grains silver).

of 1837 (not 1834)

The Mint Act did eventually provide that the new tenor gold 900 parts gold per thousand, and should contain not more than 50 parts silver per thousand, not less than 50 parts copper. This provision was to make difficulties in the early 1850's owing to the abnormally high proportion of silver in native California gold and the extreme difficulty of procuring parting acids to replacem enough silver by copper to conform to the law; but that is ~~unnecessary~~ for another book.

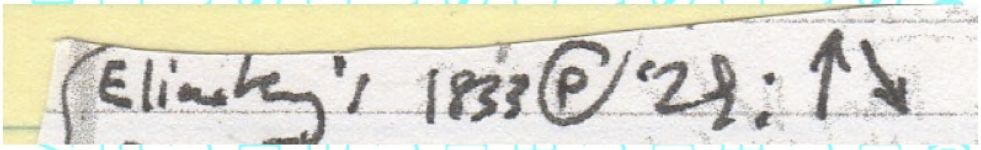
S.H. & H. Chapman sale 4/27-9/1904:546 **Proof** John G. Mills Esq..

1988 update Proof: 1) Mint; 2) Parmelee…possible 2 not Davis-Graves, Graves is 3; 3) Hall, Graves; 3) is 4; 5) Private coll.. 3 in S.I., includes 1 proof.



Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. Gem **proof**.

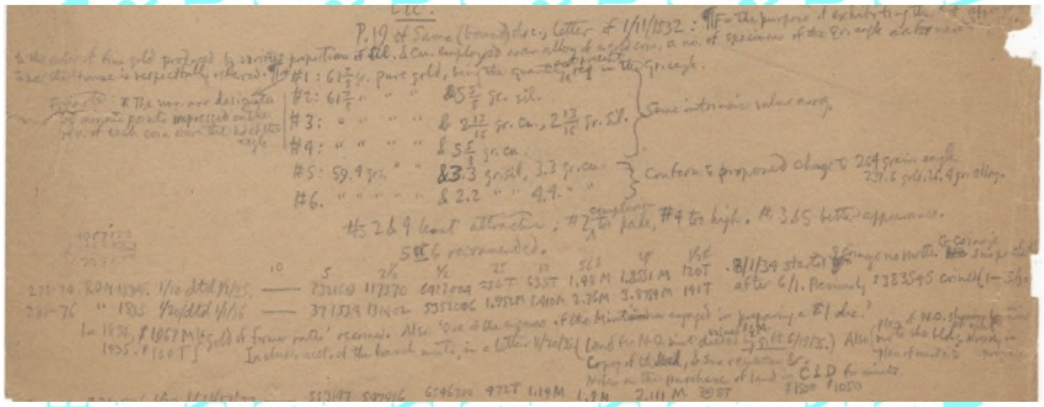
S.I. proof coin rev. rotated 210 degrees, 4.376 gms.
NB 106:238 below.



RitA (1951-2) 254-48 RDM 1833 1/13 dated 1/1/34 193630 [4160].
[not in Checklist] 254-8 RDM **special** 12/3 dated 12/2/33. Response to Committee res. of Dishonest 3/10.
(Also, this was found in Dime information [same dies]): Page 19 of same (bound) doc., letter of 1/11/1832: For the purposed of exhibiting the preferred appearance to the content of fine gold produced by various proportions of Sil. & Cu. employed as an alloy of a gold coin, a no. of specimens of the Qr. eagle are for [several words missing, WB's paper was torn here] to which the House is respectfully referred. [Footnote The #'s are designated in minute points impressed on the rev. of each coin above the hd of the eagle.]

#1: 61 7/8 gr. pure gold, being the quantity at present req in the qr. eagle. Same intrinsic value as reg.
#2: 61 /78 " " " & 5 5/8 gr. sil. " " " " "
#3: " " " " & 2 13/16 gr. Cu., 2 13/16 gr. Sil. " " " " "
#4: " " " "& 5 5/8 gr. Cu. " " " " "
#5: 59.4 grs. " " & 3.3 gr. Sil., 3.3 gr. Cu. Confirm to proposed change to 264 grains eagle 237.6 gold, 26.4 gr. alloy.
#6: " " " " & 2.2 " " 4.4 " " .
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " ".

#s 2 & 4 least attractive: #s complexion too pale, #4 too high. #3 & 5 better appearance.
272-74 RDM1834. 1/10 dated 1/1/35 $10 __ $5 732169 $2 1/2 117570
208-76 " 1835 1/20 " 1/1/36 " " " 371534 " 131402
In 1834, $1,067 M Gold of former ratio recoined. Also 'One of the Engineers of the Mint is now engaged in preparing a $ 1 die? This letter continues with Branch Mint purchase (N.O.)….
See original below.



Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Proof**.
OC NN 1952 ANA:572 "Round cap on Liberty; Motto over eagle. Ex. Fine. This rare coin is almost Uncirculated. but has been cleaned and slightly handled. Worth $65.00 today." Sold to Coal $67.1/2. See Bib. below.
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1504 for WB's comments VIMP.

Lot No. 103

103 1833 Probably purchased around 1915 (?) because coin came from Henry Chapman and cost $7.50. The original Chapman envelope and ticket with lot. Grading by the conservative Mr. Chapman Very Good and today we feel at least Fine would be acceptable. Scarce. PLATE

WB's annot. K 1/75:103 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

4160 1833. N698. Similar. 1* yd. bust. 6* over top of cap. 13* xct hair. All *s xc border, not *ly. spaced. Dime punches with imperfect 3's in date. Rev. 1830 #1. Ref: P1022

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUM

1834 Act Judd

From the same dies as the proofs.

1834

While the Act of June 28, 1834, which reduced the weight of the gold coins from 67.5 grains to 64.5 grains, and modified the composition of standard gold by increasing the percentage of the alloy, was being prepared, the Director of the Mint, Samuel Moore, made a report to the Speaker of the House on January 11, 1833, regarding the proper alloy of gold to be used for gold coins. He apparently hoped to have a clause inserted in the bill authorizing the addition of some silver to the copper used as the alloy in the standard gold, in order to improve the color of the gold coins. He pointed out that experiments had established that a "gold coin alloyed with about one-twelfth of its weight of silver and copper combined resists the effects of attrition, at least as effectually as any other proportion, and that an alloy slightly greater or less is not sensibly inferior in this respect. For the purpose of exhibiting the degree of approximation of the color of fine gold produced by various proportions of silver and copper employed as an alloy of gold coin, a number of specimens of the quarter eagle are forwarded with the report, to which the House is respectfully referred. (The numbers are designated by minute points impressed on the reverse of each coin above the head of the eagle.)

"No. 1 consists of 61⅞ grains of pure gold, being the quantity at present required in the quarter eagle.

"No. 2 contains 61⅞ grains of pure gold and 5⅝ grains of alloy, making 67½ grains, the weight of a quarter eagle of our present standard. The alloy in this specimen consists of silver alone.

"No. 3 is of the same weight and fineness as No. 2, but alloyed with silver and copper in equal proportions.

"No. 4 is of the same weight and fineness as the preceding, but alloyed wholly with copper.

"No. 5 weighs 66 grains, of which 59.4 consist of pure gold and 6.6 grains of

1834 Continued

alloy, which alloy consists of silver and copper in equal proportions.

"No. 6 is of the same weight and fineness as the preceding, but alloyed with silver and copper in the proportion of one part of the former to two parts of the latter.

"The first four specimens are of the intrinsic value of our present quarter eagle. The fifth and sixth are conformable to the coinage in which the eagle would contain 264 grains of standard gold, consisting of 237.6 grains of pure gold and 26.4 grains of alloy."[1]

Apparently all of these were melted as none are known to exist today.

QUARTER DOLLAR. Regular dies trial piece.

50. Copper—R.E. R.8. Two known.

HALF EAGLE. Regular dies trial piece without E PLURIBUS UNUM on the reverse.

51. Copper—P.E. (A-W 40) R.8.

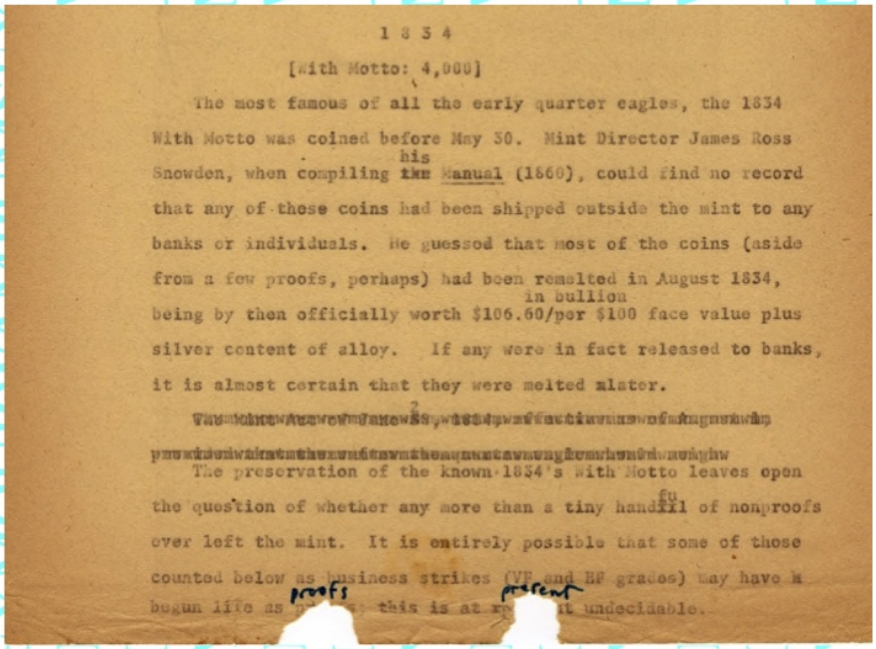
51a. Copper—R.E. R.8.

1834 With Motto

Proof. See 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833. A single 1830 reverse was repolished for a *fifth* time, recutting of the U of UNITED used to strike three proofs. Then used to strike 4,000 on May 30th.[See also **P** bk. ms.].
HB1-1830A.



Ill's. are of a **proof**. H.P.Newlin, 12/31/1884.

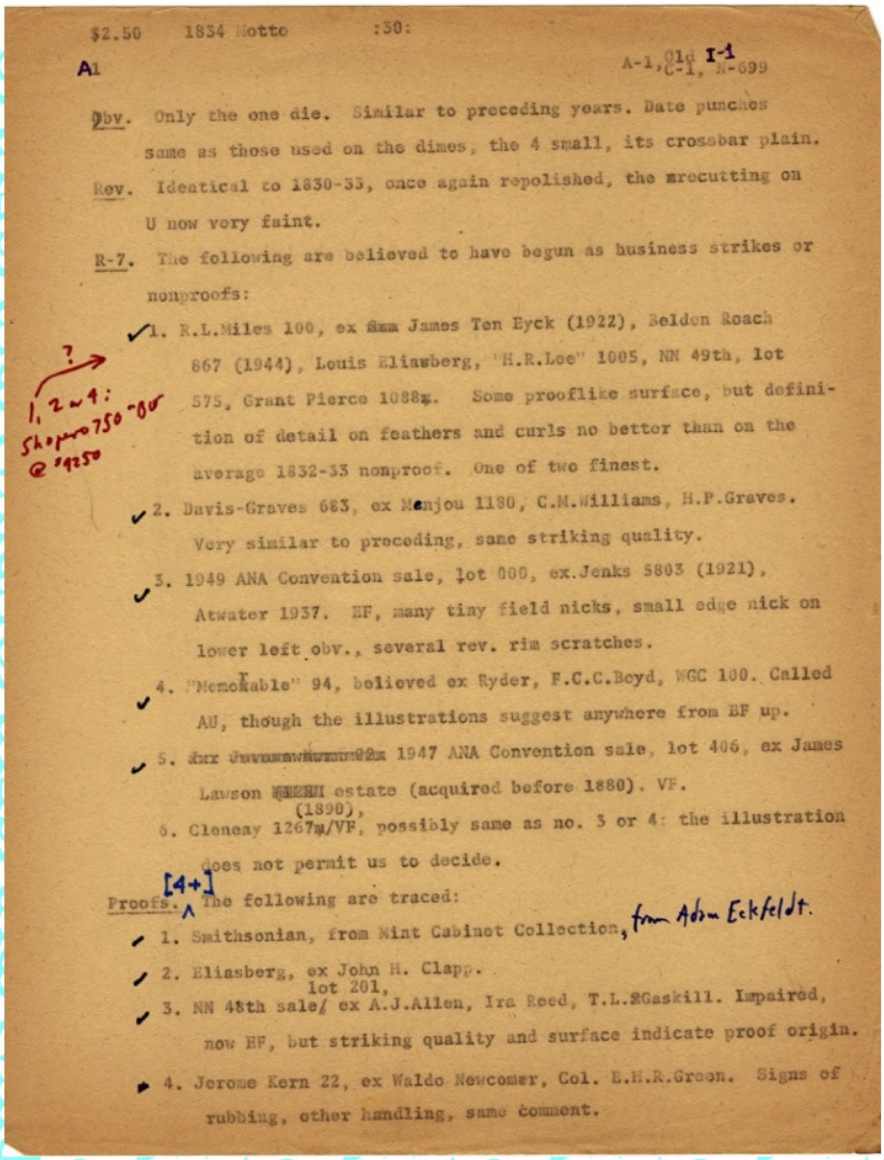


1834

[With Motto: 4,000]

The most famous of all the early quarter eagles, the 1834 With Motto was coined before May 30. Mint Director James Ross Snowden, when compiling his Manual (1860), could find no record that any of these coins had been shipped outside the mint to any banks or individuals. He guessed that most of the coins (aside from a few proofs, perhaps) had been remelted in August 1834, in bullion being by then officially worth $106.60/per $100 face value plus silver content of alloy. If any were in fact released to banks, it is almost certain that they were melted alater.

The preservation of the known 1834's With Motto leaves open the question of whether any more than a tiny handful of nonproofs ever left the mint. It is entirely possible that some of those counted below as business strikes (VF and EF grades) may have begun life as proofs; this is at present undecidable.



$2.50 1834 Motto :50:

A1 A-1, Old I-1, C-1, N-699

Obv. Only the one die. Similar to preceding years. Date punches same as those used on the dimes, the 4 small, its crossbar plain.

Rev. Identical to 1830-35, once again repolished, the arrecutting on U now very faint.

R-7. The following are believed to have begun as business strikes or nonproofs:

✓1. R.L.Miles 100, ex ~~Sam~~ James Ten Eyck (1922), Belden Roach 867 (1944), Louis Eliasberg, "H.R.Lee" 1005, NN 49th, lot 575, Grant Pierce 1088~~x~~. Some prooflike surface, but definition of detail on feathers and curls no better than on the average 1832-33 nonproof. One of two finest.

? 1, 2 ~ 4: Shapero 750 "Ob" @ $4250

✓2. Davis-Graves 683, ex Menjou 1180, C.M.Williams, H.P.Graves. Very similar to preceding, same striking quality.

✓3. 1949 ANA Convention sale, lot 000, ex.Jenks 5803 (1921), Atwater 1937. EF, many tiny field nicks, small edge nick on lower left obv., several rev. rim scratches.

✓4. "Memorable" 94, believed ex Ryder, F.C.C.Boyd, WGC 100. Called AU, though the illustrations suggest anywhere from EF up.

✓5. ~~Jxx~~ 1947 ANA Convention sale, lot 406, ex James Lawson ~~xxxxx~~ estate (acquired before 1880). VF.

6. Cleneay 1267 (1890), VF, possibly same as no. 3 or 4: the illustration does not permit us to decide.

[4+]

Proofs. The following are traced:

✓1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection, from Adam Eckfeldt.

✓2. Eliasberg, ex John H. Clapp.

✓3. NN 48th sale/ lot 201, ex A.J.Allen, Ira Reed, T.L.Gaskill. Impaired, now EF, but striking quality and surface indicate proof origin.

✓4. Jerome Kern 22, ex Waldo Newcomer, Col. E.H.R.Green. Signs of rubbing, other handling, same comment.

Proof. 1-4. And **Non-Proof 1-6.**

1) Annot. Ency 18.5 mm, 4.377 gms, 190 degrees rotated.

5) Is 3rd: H. Newlin (12/31/1884), T. H. Garrett, J.W. Garrett:753, $60,000, Auction 82:1860, $30,000, AU, ex-proof.

6) A.J.Allen, Ira Reed, T.L. Gaskill, NN 48:201, EF, ex-**proof**.

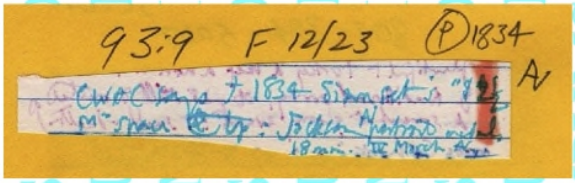
7) Is 1 NP above. J. Ten Eyck, Belden Roach, L.Eliasberg, NN 49:575, Grant Pierce, R.L. Miles:100, $6,600, Nathan Shapero:750, $4,200, AU.

8) Is 3 NP above. J.S. Jenks, W.C.Atwater, C. Hester, 1949 ANA, Chadwick-Darnell:158, EF. Possibly same as no. 15 below? N:1953 EF, ex A.King, 1/2/1953. WB note: through Kosoff C-D.
9) Is 4 above.
10) Is 2 NP above. C.M Williams, A. Menjou:1180, H.P. Graves, EF. Possibly same as no. 14 or 14?
11) Is 4 above.
12) Is 5 NP above. James Lawson estate (before 1880), Mabel Sandford, 1947 ANA, VF+. ?same as 18.
13) Mackenzie, Nicholson Family:53. VF. Possibly same as one of above.
14) "Alto":71. Same comment.
15) A. Lamborn, "Fairfield":1461, $19,000, Auction 80:888, EF, $33,000. Same comment.
16) Shuford:1723. Possibly same as one of above; quality of photographic reproduction prevents certainty.
17) 1973 ANA:820. Same comment.
18) Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I.. 4.325 gms., 18.4 mm, 195 degrees rotated.

Breen's register of known & traceable, in 1975, his study began in 1950.
1834 Motto, the most famous of these years, and one of the most illustrious of all American gold rarities, is 1834 with motto. Most of the [4,000] coined before May 30 remained in the Mint, to be melted after Aug, 1, when the new law became effective, reducing standard weight enough to render each old-tenor quarter eagle worth $2.665 (+ silver content of alloy). Several survivors originated as proofs, and not impossibly all did; no mint-state business strike is known (ca. 1990), and all the best ones have proof surface. Mint Director J.R. Snowden (1860) could find no record that any business strikes of 1834 old-tenor were released. The roster is as nearly complete as possible, though quality of illustrations in some auction catalogues precludes positive identification. "Musical Chairs" must be accepted.
One other may still exist. The original case made up for diplomatic presentation to the King of Siam (Nov. 1834) had room for the coin with motto, though when this set was located in 1962 the quarter eagle of this type had disappeared. As there were four sets in all made up, presumably all were intended to include the (old-tenor) coin with motto; conceivably three of the surviving proofs, impaired or otherwise, might have originated with these

sets. (That in the Smithsonian had been in the Mint Cabinet Collection at least since Adam Eckfeldt's day, 1838).

One other variety with motto is claimed to have existed. This is Adams 2, listed as Clapp 1A but not seen by him. Significantly, Adams provided neither photograph nor auction reference in any of his surviving gold notebooks. It is not one of the above known (ms) specimens. Descriptions after Adams:
Obv. Similar to no. 1, but 6th star farther from cap.
Rev. Similar, but E in STATES is above U in motto, "almost central," whereas on no. 1 E is above BU; "S of STATES projects beyond S of PLURIBUS."



NB 93:9. Verification of type is necessary.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:1005 1834 With motto over Eagle. Probably not more than 10 or 12 pieces are known. This is a brilliant semi proof with raised borders[…]." $750.00.

JCM#311, 10/18/33:158 "1834 With motto over eagle. Uncirculated and one of the rarest United States gold coins. *Illustrated.*" $750.00.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Proof**. WB.

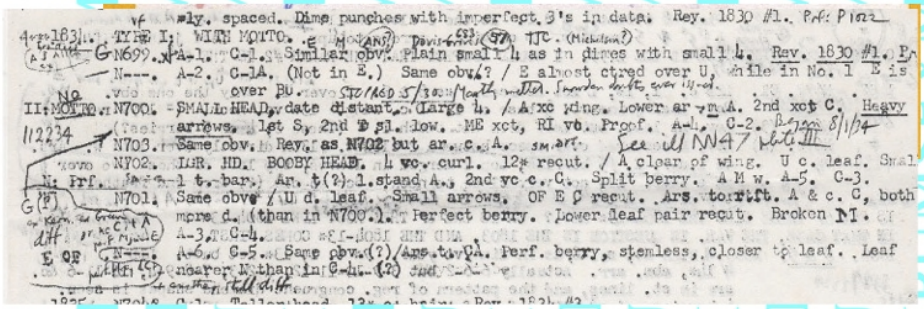
BMM A.Carter 10/55:102 '…Practically u…'.

See Bibliography below.

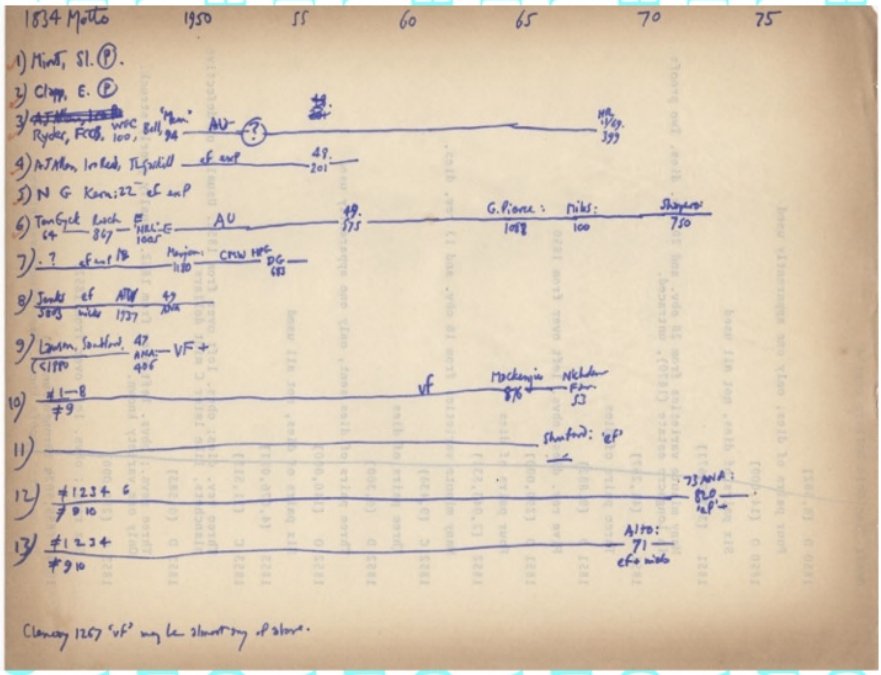
NN 47:1472 Two pieces both 1834 types.

Which is J.H.Clapp from J.C.Randal 12/1895? to Eliasberg.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



The above B&W copy is superior to original color scan.



NB CV:18 King Ph’ra Nang Klao of Siam set.

T Iranian, bought t King of Siam Proof set & deslabbed it. [ill. floated where? see 1st ed.].
See also 1834 No Motto next volume.

Proof With Motto: [2+] Breen-Type I-1. 1830-3 rev. as used on business strikes & proofs in each year. 1) Adam Ekfeldt (1839), Mint, S.I.. 2) Clapp, Elisaberg. 3) A.J. Allen, Ira Reed, Gaskill, NN 48:201 EF ex Proof (cat. by Breen). 4) Newcomer, Green, Kern:22, impaired, not seen by Breen. The Siam set has a cutting for the coin but was empty. It may be lost or one of the above.

Proof No Motto. “Classic Head.” [2+] Breen-II-1, state A. Small head, 4 is well away from curls, recuttings on bases of (T)E(S), O(F). See next.

See NB 93:9 above.
Nb 70:128 Vars. in 1834 Proof Set (King of Siam): NB 2:146.

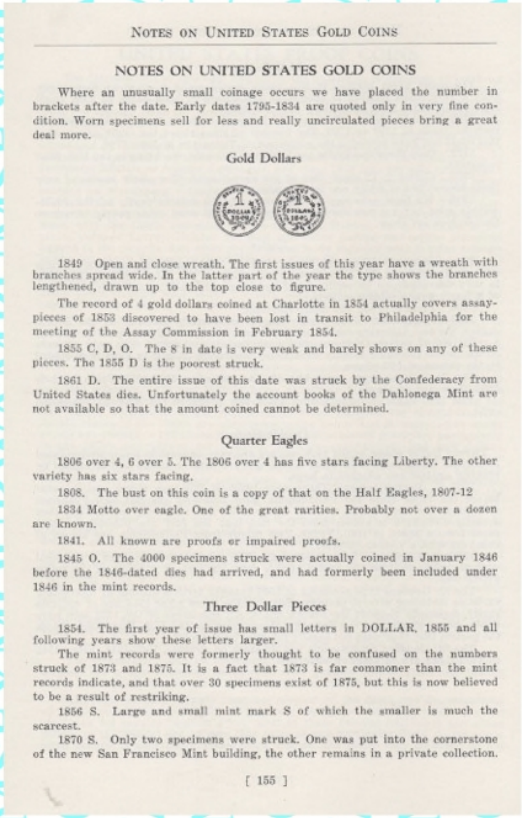
SEYMOURWAMPUM

Bibliography & Abbreviations

See complete Gold Bibliography of all denominations.

A-W = Adams and Woodin, William Hartman, U.S. Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces N.Y., ANS 1913.

United States Pattern, Experimental & Trial Pieces Third Edition J.Hewitt Judd M.D. 1965, 1959 Walter H. Breen Research. Abe Kosoff Valuation. Whitman Publishing Co. Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 62-1888.



NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

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Where an unusually small coinage occurs we have placed the number in brackets after the date. Early dates 1795-1834 are quoted only in very fine condition. Worn specimens sell for less and really uncirculated pieces bring a great deal more.

Gold Dollars

1849 Open and close wreath. The first issues of this year have a wreath with branches spread wide. In the latter part of the year the type shows the branches lengthened, drawn up to the top close to figure.

The record of 4 gold dollars coined at Charlotte in 1854 actually covers assay-pieces of 1853 discovered to have been lost in transit to Philadelphia for the meeting of the Assay Commission in February 1854.

1855 C, D, O. The 8 in date is very weak and barely shows on any of these pieces. The 1855 D is the poorest struck.

1861 D. The entire issue of this date was struck by the Confederacy from United States dies. Unfortunately the account books of the Dahlonega Mint are not available so that the amount coined cannot be determined.

Quarter Eagles

1806 over 4, 6 over 5. The 1806 over 4 has five stars facing Liberty. The other variety has six stars facing.

1808. The bust on this coin is a copy of that on the Half Eagles, 1807-12

1834 Motto over eagle. One of the great rarities. Probably not over a dozen are known.

1841. All known are proofs or impaired proofs.

1845 O. The 4000 specimens struck were actually coined in January 1846 before the 1846-dated dies had arrived, and had formerly been included under 1846 in the mint records.

Three Dollar Pieces

1854. The first year of issue has small letters in DOLLAR, 1855 and all following years show these letters larger.

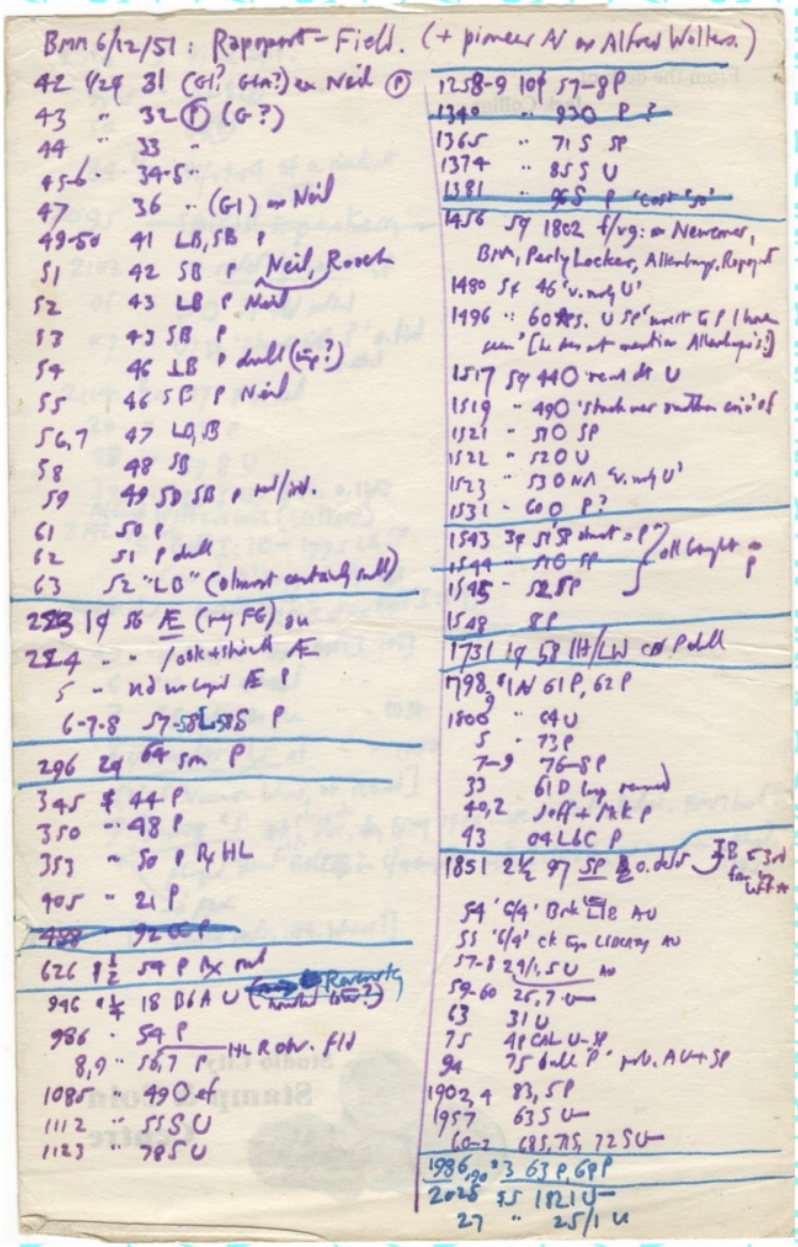
The mint records were formerly thought to be confused on the numbers struck of 1873 and 1875. It is a fact that 1873 is far commoner than the mint records indicate, and that over 30 specimens exist of 1875, but this is now believed to be a result of restriking.

1856 S. Large and small mint mark S of which the smaller is much the scarcest.

1870 S. Only two specimens were struck. One was put into the cornerstone of the new San Francisco Mint building, the other remains in a private collection.

[155]

Written/revised by Breen. Standard Catalogue. His copy.



Bmm 6/12/51 : Rapport – Field. (+ pioneer AV on Alfred Walker)

42 ½q 31 (G1? Gm?) ex Neil (P)
43 " 32 (P) (G?)
44 " 33 "
45-6 " 34-5 "
47 " 36 " (G1) ex Neil
49-50 41 LB, SB P
51 42 SB P Neil, Roach
52 43 LB P Neil
53 43 SB P
54 46 LB P dull (sq?)
55 46 SB P Neil
56,7 47 LB, SB
58 48 SB
59 49 SB SB P wd/ww.
61 50 P
62 51 P dull
63 52 "LB" (element centrally null)

2523 1q 56 AE (my FG) ou
2524 " " /oak+thick AE
5 " wd ww Lapid AE P
6-7-8 57-58 L585 P

296 2q 64 sm P

345 ¾ 44 P
350 " 48 P
353 " 50 P Ry HL
405 " 21 P
~~499 " 92 OO P~~

626 1½ 59 P Rx rnd
946 1¼ 18 B6A U (Rowarth)
986 " 59 P HL Rother. fld
8,9 " 58,7 P
1085 " 490 ef
1112 " 55 S U
1123 " 785 U

1258-9 10f 57-8 P
~~1340 " 930 P ?~~
1365 " 71 S SP
1374 " 855 U
~~1381 " 965 P 'cast Eyo'~~

1456 5q 1802 f/vg: ex Newtons, BM, Parly Lockers, Allenbury, Rapport
1480 5f 46 'v. wdy U'
1496 " 60 ~~Rs~~. U Sp' unit G P I have seen' [he does not mention Allenbury's!]
1517 5q 440 'rem dk U
1519 " 490 'stuck over mother c/o' of
1521 " 510 SP
1522 " 520 U
1523 " 530 NA 'v. wdy U'
1531 " 600 P?

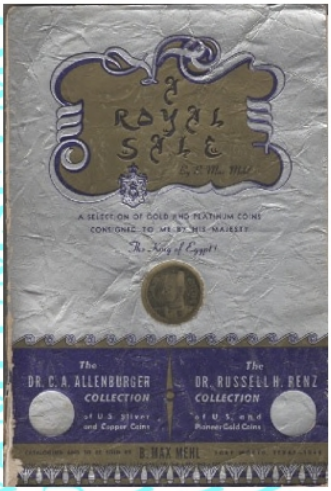
1543 3p 51 SP short = P?
~~1544 " 510 FP~~ } all caught in P
1545 " 525 P
1548 " 8P

1731 1q 58 IH/LW ex Pdell
1798 " IN 61 P, 62 P
1800 " 64 U
5 " 73 P
7-9 76-8 P
33 61 D leg rem'd
40,2 Joff + /sk P
43 04 L&C P

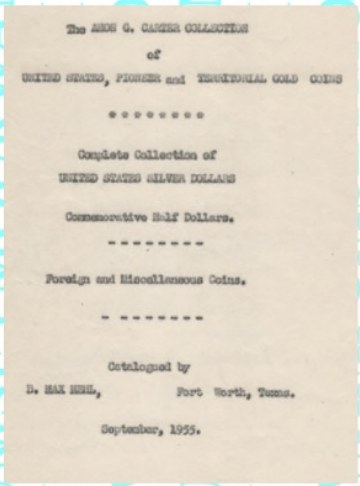
1851 2½ 47 SP & o. dds JB 53rd for 47th
54 'G4' Brk Lie AU
55 'G/4' ck Eyo closing AU
57-8 29/1.5 U AU
59-60 25,7 U
63 31 U
75 4P CAL U-SP
94 75 dull P' wd. AU+SP
1902,4 83, 5P
1957 635 U
60-2 685, 715, 725 U
1986,90 3 63 P, 69 P
2025 55 1821 U
27 " 25/1 U

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSE

Catalogs



See gold catalog list.
See also below.
BMM "Farouk" 3/23/1948 Lot 296 1798 page 34. Descriptions are used with extreme caution due to BMM's honesty.



The ANNE G. CARTER COLLECTION

of

UNITED STATES, PIONEER and TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS

* * * * * * * *

Complete Collection of
UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS

Commemorative Half Dollars.

- - - - - - - -

Foreign and Miscellaneous Coins.

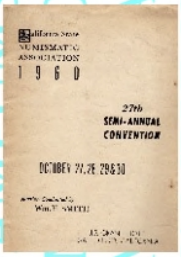
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Catalogued by
B. MAX MEHL, Fort Worth, Texas.

September, 1955.

BMM A. Carter 10/55:_.

California State Numismatic Assoc. (27th) Oct., 1960.



U. S. $2.50 GOLD PIECES

853 1796 First Year and First Type without Stars. This is an Extremely Fine coin, free from nicks and scratches and showing but slight wear. However, highest point of head and shield on the Reverse shows file or weight adjustment marks. A very RARE coin and in great demand! Should realize in excess of..... 2500.00

****

854 1796 Second Variety - 16 Stars on Obverse. Very Fine. A well struck specimen showing very little wear. Coin has a very fine evely pitted surface. Excessively RARE! Should realize 2000.00

****

855 1807 Liberty Cap $2.50 Gold Piece. A well struck ~~Very~~ Fine Specimen. Worth 550.00

****

856 1808 First Year and Only issue of its kind with Large Bust to the Left. An Extremely Fine coin with a very lite rim nick at 3rd Star on the Obverse. Reverse has faint hairline scratches in field over Eagle's Head. However, these are minute as the coin shows very little wear. EXTREMELY RARE! 2500.00

****

857 1836 Bust Type $2.50 - Very Fine..... 27.50

858 1851 Liberty $2.50 - Fine 17.00

859 1898 Liberty $2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated..... 40.00

860 1904 Liberty $2.50 - Uncirculated..... 35.00

861 1911 P Indian Head $2.50 - Very Fine..... 16.50

862 1911 D Indian Head $2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated with wire edge on Obverse and Reverse. RARE! Worth full catalogue of 250.00

863 1912 P Indian Head $2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated..... 24.00

864 1912 P Indian Head $2.50 - Extremely Fine..... 20.00

865 1913 Indian Head $2.50 - Extremely Fine..... 20.00

866 1914 D Indian Head $2.50 - Extremely Fine..... 24.00

Annotations by W.Breen.

S(tack's) Smith (May) 5/1955:_.



U. S. QUARTER EAGLES ($2.50 GOLD)

425 500 alt F/VF ? 200 325 150 200 75 90 105 150 65 70

1485 1796 First year of issue, this is the only type that has no stars on Obverse. This coin is in great demand by the "Type Gold Collector" as well the date Collector. Extremely Fine, with some mint lustre. The Davis Graves Specimen realized $575.00. Very Rare. **PLATE**

1486 1797 With the usual die crack, from "Y" in Liberty to the last 2 Stars. The Davis Graves coin realized $325.00 in the same condition. ~~Extremely~~ Fine. Very Rare. **PLATE**

1487 1798 This is the only variety that has 6 Stars behind head and 7 in front. About ~~Extremely~~ Fine. Rare. **PLATE**

1488 1802 Has the faintest trace of friction on obverse. Otherwise it would be Uncirculated. Now ~~Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE**

1489 1804 a beautiful sharp strike and perfect centering full mint lustre. About Uncirculated. **PLATE** 14*.

1490 1805 Very Fine and Sharp. Very Scarce. **PLATE**

50 50 100 30

1491 1805 has a faint edge dent behind head and also a scratch in hair. Very Fine. Very Scarce

1492 1806 over 4, worn evenly. ~~Strictly Very~~ Fine. Very Scarce. **PLATE**

1493 1807 The last of the Liberty cap variety. ~~Strictly Fine~~. Very Sharp

THE RARE 1808 QUARTER EAGLE

250 $500 (Ruffed) 150 250 (VF Ruffed)

1494 1808, this is needed by the type and date collector. Known as the "Turban head" facing left. There ~~is faint~~ scratches of "E and I" in front of face, (hardly noticeable), has been somewhat cleaned, does not show any wear. Extremely Fine. Very Rare. **PLATE**

1495 1821 New Type, reduced in size. This is a Brilliant Proof Coin. **PLATE**

1496 1824 over 21, ~~Formerly Proof, but mishandled. Now Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE**

1497 1825 About ~~Very~~ Fine, worn evenly. Still very Sharp. **PLATE**

1498 1826 over 25, larger stars than above. ~~Extremely~~ Fine. A most difficult coin to get. Rare. **PLATE**

1499 1827 has minute faint lines in front of face. Uncirculated and Rare. **PLATE**

1500 1829 ~~A Choice Very~~ Fine Coin. **PLATE**

1501 1830 has a faint dent on edge near the 3rd star. ~~Uncirculated~~ with Proof surface and high wire edge. **PLATE**

1502 1831 Brilliant ~~Proof~~, full lustre and high wire edge. A Choice coin. Rare in this condition. **PLATE**

1503 1832 ~~Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE**

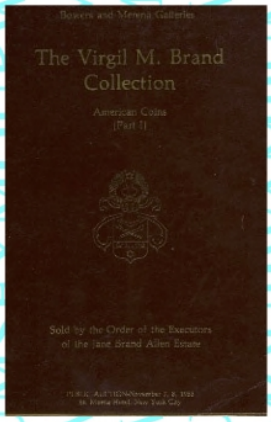
1504 1833 Brilliant Uncirculated full mint lustre. ~~A Gem~~. **PLATE**

1505 1834 New type. Without Motto. Very Fine

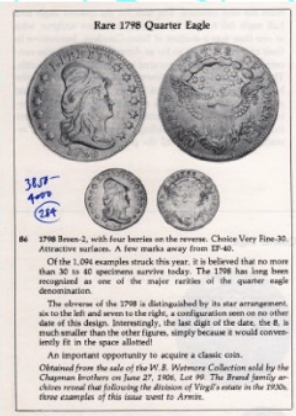
1506 1834 Very Fine

1507 1835 Very Fine

V.Brand Collection. B&R Nov. 1983. PR's by Breen.







86 1798 Breen-2, with four berries on the reverse. Choice Very Fine-30. Attractive surfaces. A few marks away from EF-40.

Of the 1,094 examples struck this year, it is believed that no more than 30 to 40 specimens survive today. The 1798 has long been recognized as one of the major rarities of the quarter eagle denomination.

The obverse of the 1798 is distinguished by its star arrangement, six to the left and seven to the right, a configuration seen on no other date of this design. Interestingly, the last digit of the date, the 8, is much smaller than the other figures, simply because it would conveniently fit in the space allotted!

An important opportunity to acquire a classic coin.

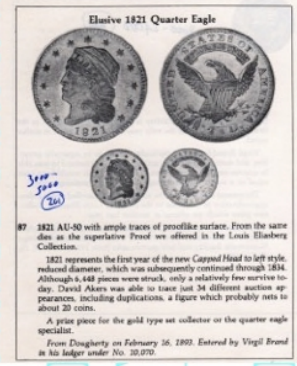
Obtained from the sale of the W. B. Wetmore Collection sold by the Chapman brothers on June 27, 1906, Lot 99. The Brand family archives reveal that following the division of Virgil's estate in the 1930s, three examples of this issue went to Armin.



88 1825 Choice AU-55, prooflike. A superb "award-winning" striking with a wealth of design detail. The features are highlighted by virtually complete prooflike fields.

Mint records reveal that 4,434 specimens were minted of the 1825 quarter eagle but, like others of its era, most went to the melting pot, as the pieces became worth more in bullion value than their indicated denomination. Probably two dozen or so are known today, of which Virgil Brand once owned a substantial percentage (see footnote).

The provenance cannot be determined with certainty, but it is either a piece acquired privately from Charles Steigerwalt, the Lancaster, Pennsylvania dealer, on October 30, 1893, and entered in Virgil's journal as No. 12,167, or it was a piece from S. Max Mehl's 38th sale, featuring the collections of W. F. Kapp and Horace Carr, May 17, 1916, Lot 210 (journal entry 79,423). As part of his share of his brother's estate, Armin Brand received six specimens when the division was made in the 1930s!

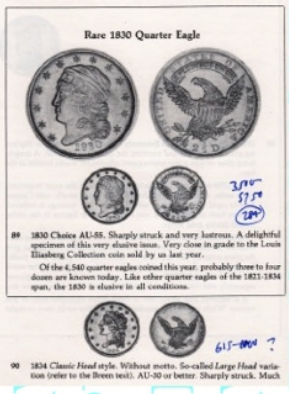


87 1821 AU-50 with ample traces of prooflike surface. From the same dies as the superlative Proof we offered in the Louis Eliasberg Collection.

1821 represents the first year of the new *Capped Head* to left style, reduced diameter, which was subsequently continued through 1834. Although 6,448 pieces were struck, only a relatively few survive today. David Akers was able to trace just 34 different auction appearances, including duplications, a figure which probably nets to about 20 coins.

A prize piece for the gold type set collector or the quarter eagle specialist.

From Dougherty on February 16, 1893. Entered by Virgil Brand in his ledger under No. 10,070.



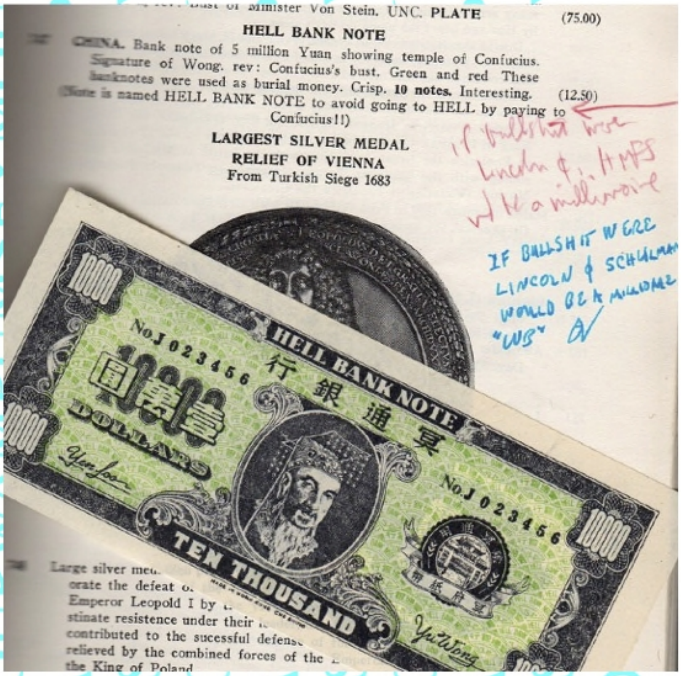
89 1830 Choice AU-55. Sharply struck and very lustrous. A delightful specimen of this very elusive issue. Very close in grade to the Louis Eliasberg Collection coin sold by us last year.

Of the 4,540 quarter eagles coined this year, probably three to four dozen are known today. Like other quarter eagles of the 1821-1834 span, the 1830 is elusive in all conditions.

90 1834 *Classic Head* style. Without motto. So-called *Large Head* variation (refer to the Breen text). AU-30 or better. Sharply struck. Much

A. Kriesberg, H. Schulman, auction April, 1959.





Minister Von Stein. UNC. PLATE (75.00)

HELL BANK NOTE

CHINA. Bank note of 5 million Yuan showing temple of Confucius. Signature of Wong. rev: Confucius's bust. Green and red These banknotes were used as burial money. Crisp. **10 notes.** Interesting. (12.50)
(Note is named HELL BANK NOTE to avoid going to HELL by paying to Confucius!!)

LARGEST SILVER MEDAL
RELIEF OF VIENNA
From Turkish Siege 1683

Large silver med...
orate the defeat o...
Emperor Leopold I by ...
stinate resistence under their ...
contributed to the sucessful defens...
relieved by the combined forces of the ...
the King of Poland

646 Original heavy bronze medal by J. Paulus (Giampolo) 1946 in Rome of Eisenhower as General of NATO. Beautiful patina. This medal unknown. 3¼". EF. **RARE.** (50.00)

HITLER MEDALS
(All silver dollar size)

647 30 Jan. 1933. Bust l., rev: Eagle in Swastika. GEMEINNUTZ VOR EIGENNUTZ. Bronze. VF. (35.00)

647A Undated. Bust l., rev: DU BIST NICHTS DEIN VOLK IST ALLES. Swastika below. Silver. UNC. (50.00)

648 1933. Bust r., REICHS KANZLER. ADOLF HITLER. rev: Eagle on swastika with date on neck EIN VOLK – EIN REICH – EIN FUEHRER. Inner inscription 30 JANUAR – 5 MAERZ – 21 MAERZ 12 NOVEMBER. Silver. Extr. F. (40.00)

649 1938. Bust r., DER EINER UND FVHRER ALLER DEVTSCHEN. rev: Cross on Reichsapple. DAS GROSSDEVTSCHE REICH IST ERSTANDEN. 13-3. 1938 29.9. 1938. Silver. Extr. F. (40.00)

650 Porcelain medal 1939 commemorating Hitler's 50th anniversary. His head l. Rv. Plain, in lower part two crossed swords, the sign of the porcelain factory at **Meissen.** 36mm. Red. Unc. (15.00)

651 Porcelain medal showing bust of the young Hitler facing, in civil clothes, as he was looking like in 1924. Rv. Inscription, 40mm, pmk, work of the famous porcelain factory at Meissen. Unc. (15.00)

2599 **1798 Extremely rare, five berries upon olive branch. Very seldom offered. Lustrous almost extremely fine. Worth (600.00) PLATE**

2600 **1802 over 1. Almost Very Fine. Greatly in demand and undercatalogued. Currently selling for almost (300.00)**

2601 **1805 Considerable mint lustre. Sharp. Extremely fine. Worth at least (350.00)**

2602 **1807 Choice extremely fine. Lustrous. Worth (275.00)**

2603 **1829 Considerable proof surface. Very rare type coin. There is no catalogue value placed on these early gems. Worth (350.00) PLATE**

2604 1838 Very Fine.

2605 1839–C Mint mark obverse. Die breaks on reverse. Extremely Fine. Rare. Worth (60.00)

2606 1839–D Mintmark obverse. Sharp. Very Fine. Scarce type coin worth (60.00)

2607 1839–O A type coin, with mint mark on obverse. Quite scarce. Very Fine. Worth at least (35.00)

2608 1840–O Very Fine plus.

2609 1843–D Extremely Fine. Scarce (39.50)

2610 1844–D Brilliant Uncirculated. Rare. So choice (75.00)

2611 1846–D Extremely Fine. Scarce (50.00)

2612 1847–C About Uncirculated (55.00)

2613 1850–C Consistently selling for over catalog value. Sharp. Very Fine. Worth (50.00)

2614 1860–C Last year of Charlotte mint quarter eagles. Extremely Fine and Rare. Worth at least (65.00)

2615 **1875 Proof. Extremely rare. Total mintage 420. This is not the nicest of the 20 Proofs struck. Some hairlines in field, however, it is so valuable and so seldom offered we estimate it will sell for over (500.00)**

2616 **1877 Proof. Only 20 struck. Some hairlines in field. A scarce date. Catalogs (240.00)**

2617 1877–S Choice About Uncirculated (30.00)

2618 **1882 Proof. 40 struck. Hairlines. Scarce (150.00)**

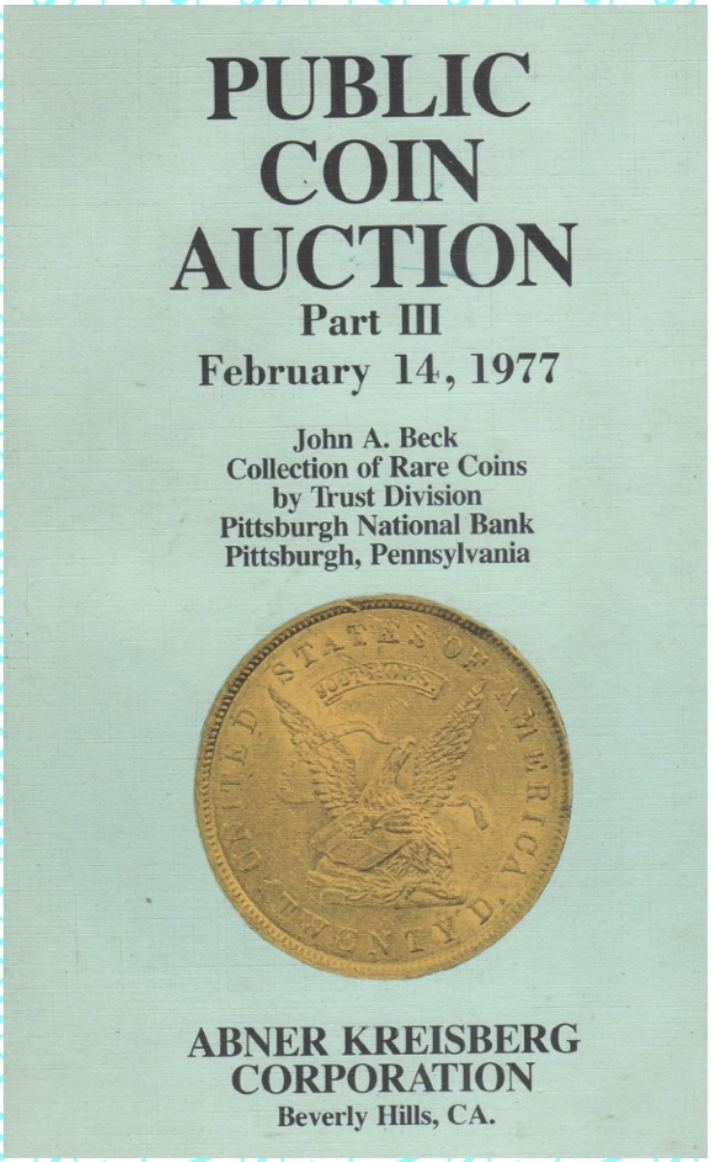
2619 1883 Scarce. About Uncirculated (75.00)

2620 **1884 Brilliant Proof. 43 issued. Very scarce. Few hairlines. Worth (200.00)**

2621 1884 Scarce. Brilliant Uncirculated. Less than 2000 struck. Sells for over Catalog (95.00)

2622 **1885 Choice about Uncirculated. Very scarce (175.00)**

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PCA III "Beck" 2/14/1977. Walter Breen's annotated copy.

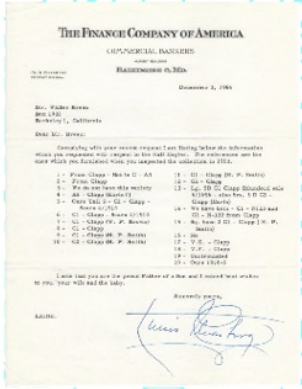
Eliasberg collection invitation 1953 & letter 1964.

c/o New Netherlands
580 Fifth Ave.
N.Y.C. 36.
15 December 1952

Dear Mr. Straus,

This will serve as formal confirmation of my answer to the very attractive proposition you made in your very much appreciated telephone call of last week. I had every intention of writing you before, but on the same day that you phoned me I received an invitation to a weekend out of town which required immediate attention so far as Pullman service, etc., was concerned. (To Alexandria, Va., as a matter of fact.) And inasmuch as I was aware that I would be returning by plane, I did not dare to take the typewriter along on the weekend. Nevertheless, I accept with pleasure.

Mr. Wormser suggested to me that a letter be written to Louis Eliasberg, formally accepting his offer, and requesting information as to the date when he wishes to have me down in Baltimore after January 1, 1953. This letter has been drafted and will be sent this week. I probably will be unable to get to Baltimore before Jan. 1, but will be free from then on, my arrival depending entirely on Mr. Eliasberg's desires.



THE FINANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

COMMERCIAL BANKERS

Baltimore 3, Md.

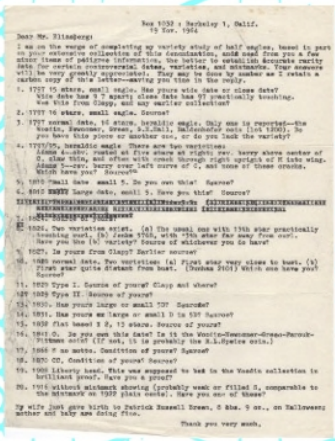
December 2, 1964

Mr. Walter Breen
Box 1932
Berkeley 1, California

Dear Mr. Breen:

Regretfully yours,

Louis



Box 1932 : Berkeley 1, Calif.
15 Dec. 1964

Dear Mr. Eliasberg:

I am on the verge of completing my variety study of half eagles, based in part on your extensive collection of this denomination, and need from you a few minor items of positive information, the better to establish accurate rarity data for certain controversial dates, varieties, and mintmarks. Your answers will be very greatly appreciated. They may be done by number as I retain a carbon copy of this letter--saving you time in the reply.

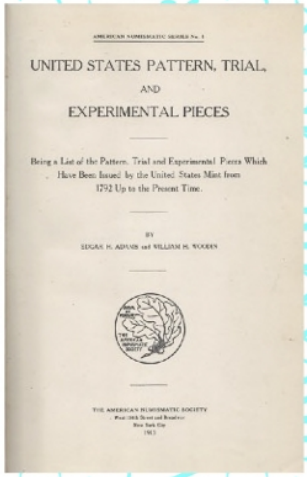
1. 1797 15 stars, small eagle. Has yours wide date or close date? Wide date has 9 7 apart; close date has 97 practically touching. Was this from Clapp, and any earlier collection?
2. 1797 16 stars, small eagle. Source?
3. 1797 normal date, 16 stars, heraldic eagle. Only one is reported--the Woodin, Newcomer, Green, A.J.Dall, Bahrenburg coin (lot 1956). Do you have this piece or another one, or do you lack the variety?
4. 1797/5, heraldic eagle. There are two varieties. Adams 4--obv. rusted at five stars at right; rev. berry above center of C, also this, and often with crack through right upright of M take wing. Adams 5--rev. berry over left curve of C, and none of these cracks. Which have you? Source?
5. 1803 "Small Date" small 5. Do you own this? Source?
6. 1803 LARGE Large date, small 5. Have you this? Source?
7. [illegible]
8. 1826. Two varieties exist. (a) The usual one with 13th star practically touching curl. (b) Jenks 976b, with 13th star far away from curl. Have you the (b) variety? Source of whichever you do have?
9. 1827. Is yours from Clapp? Earlier source?
10. 1829 normal date. Two varieties: (a) First star very close to bust. (b) First star quite distant from bust. (Jenks 980) Which one have you? Sources?
11. 1829 Type I. Source of yours? Clapp and where?
12. 1829 Type II. Source of yours?
13. 1830. Has yours large or small 30? Sources?
14. 1831. Has yours an large or small D to 53? Source?
15. 1832 flat tassel 3 2, 13 stars. Source of yours?
16. 1841 O. Is you own this date? Is it the Woodin-Newcomer-Green-Parmelee-Pittman coin? (If not, it is probably the B.L.Eparo coin.)
17. 1866 7 on motto. Condition of yours? Source?
18. 1870 CC. Condition of yours? Source?
19. 1908 Liberty head. This was supposed to be in the Woodin collection in brilliant proof. Have you a proof?
20. 1914 without mintmark showing (probably weak or filled S, comparable to the mintmark on 1909 plain cents). Have you one of these?

My wife just gave birth to Patrick Russell Breen, 8 lbs. 9 oz., on Halloween; mother and baby are doing fine.

Thank you very much,

Bibliography

See gold Bibliography.



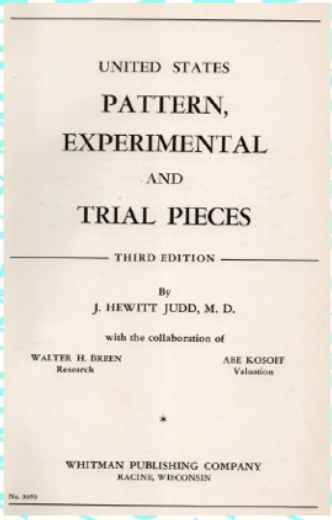
UNITED STATES PATTERN, TRIAL, AND EXPERIMENTAL PIECES

Being a List of the Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces Which Have Been Issued by the United States Mint from 1792 Up to the Present Time.

BY

EDGAR H. ADAMS and WILLIAM H. WOODIN

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



UNITED STATES

PATTERN, EXPERIMENTAL AND TRIAL PIECES

THIRD EDITION

By

J. HEWITT JUDD, M. D.

with the collaboration of

WALTER H. BREEN
Research

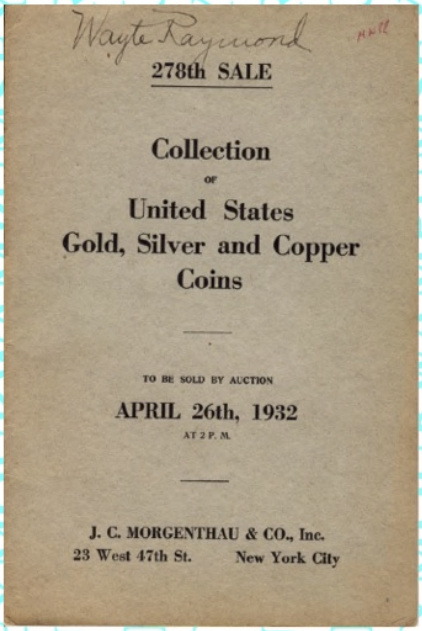
ABE KOSOFF
Valuation

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
RACINE, WISCONSIN

A-W above Ex. Libras Walter Breen.
Rewritten 4th Edition by Walter Breen.

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J.C. Morgenthau & Co. 278th sale 4/26/1932 Wayte Raymond's copy.



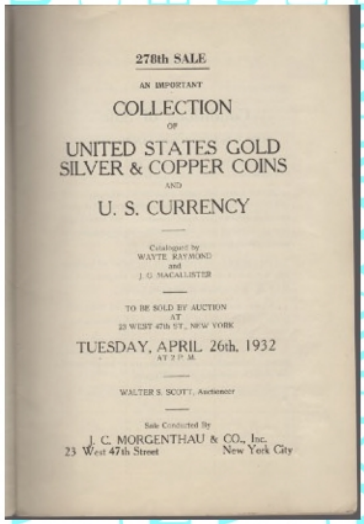
Wayte Raymond

278th SALE

Collection
OF
United States
Gold, Silver and Copper
Coins

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION
APRIL 26th, 1932
AT 2 P. M.

J. C. MORGENTHAU & CO., Inc.
23 West 47th St. New York City



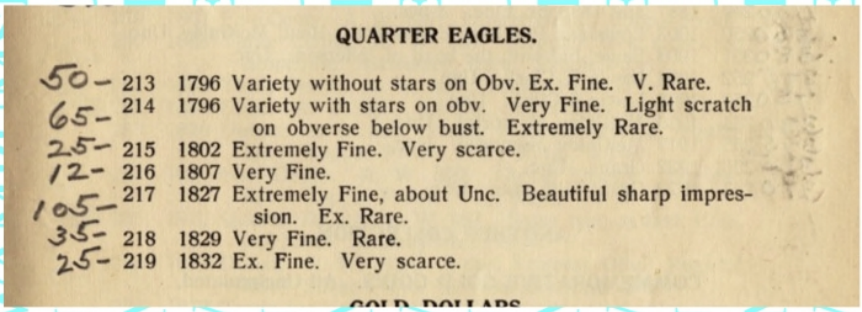
278th SALE
AN IMPORTANT
COLLECTION
OF
UNITED STATES GOLD
SILVER & COPPER COINS
AND
U. S. CURRENCY

Catalogued by
WAYTE RAYMOND
and
J. G. MACALLISTER

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION
AT
23 WEST 47th ST., NEW YORK
TUESDAY, APRIL 26th, 1932
AT 2 P. M.

WALTER S. SCOTT, Auctioneer

Sale Conducted By
J. C. MORGENTHAU & CO., Inc.
23 West 47th Street New York City

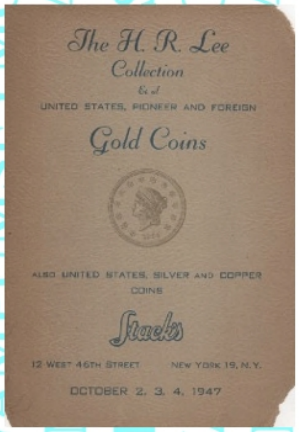


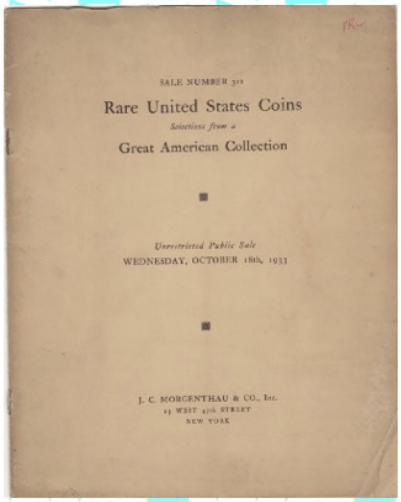
QUARTER EAGLES.

50- 213 1796 Variety without stars on Obv. Ex. Fine. V. Rare.
65- 214 1796 Variety with stars on obv. Very Fine. Light scratch on obverse below bust. Extremely Rare.
25- 215 1802 Extremely Fine. Very scarce.
12- 216 1807 Very Fine.
105- 217 1827 Extremely Fine, about Unc. Beautiful sharp impression. Ex. Rare.
35- 218 1829 Very Fine. Rare.
25- 219 1832 Ex. Fine. Very scarce.

GOLD DOLLARS

Ex. FCC Boyd, WB, BV; W.Raymond recorded Prices Realized. This writing matches other catalogues; there is some on page 20-1 that is probably FCCB's.

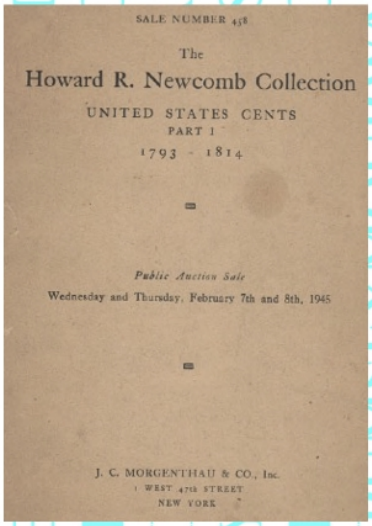


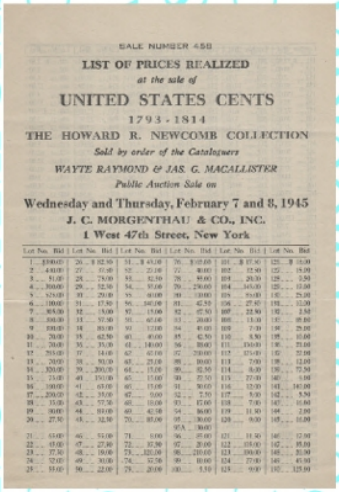


Herein "H.R. Lee" S 10/47.

Herein JCM#311, 10/18/33:_.

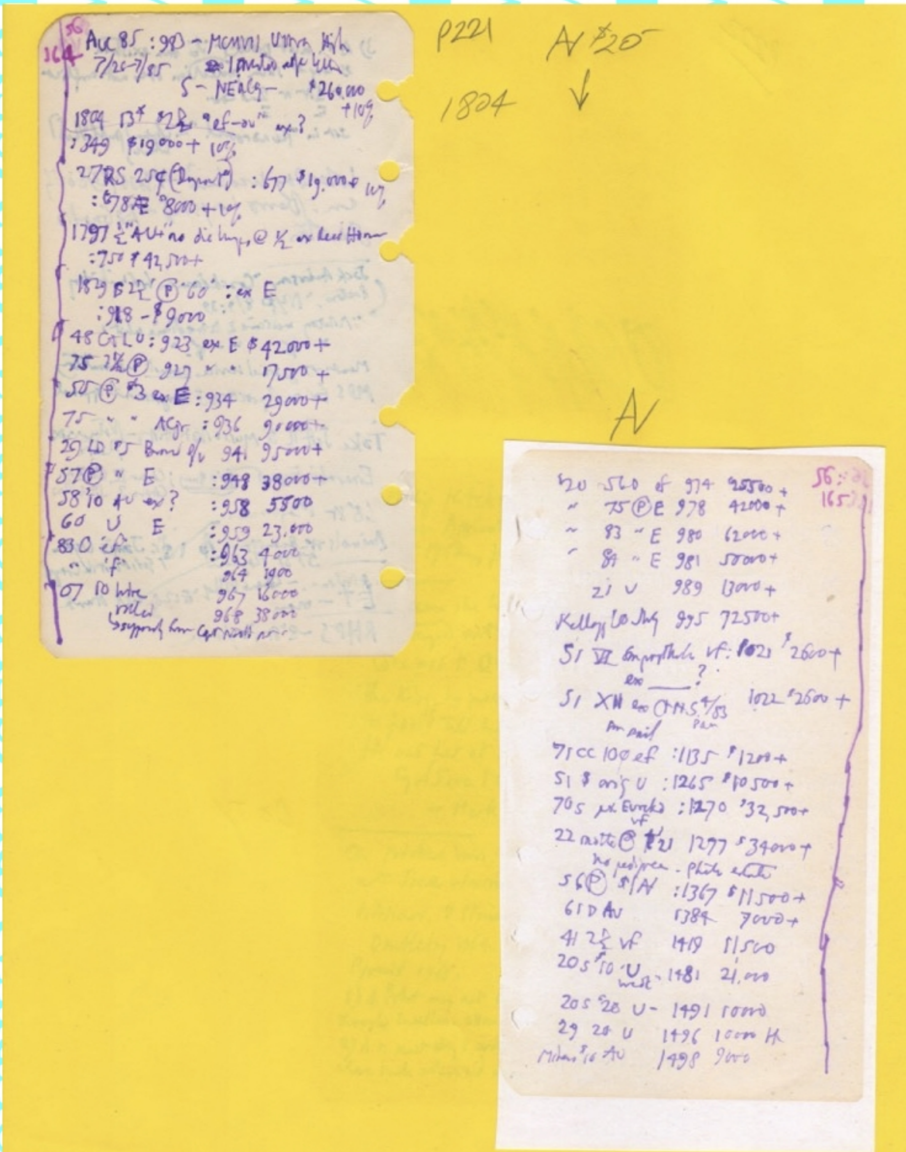
W. Raymond copy to WB.





W. Breen's copy annotated JCM #458.

Auc ’85 NB 56:164-5 below.

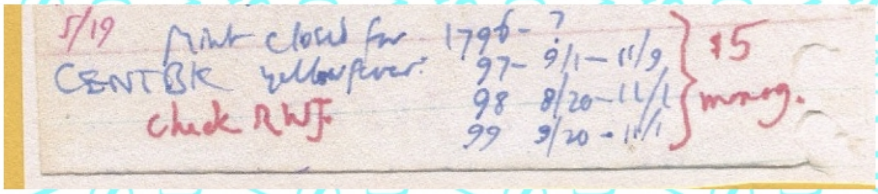

56
164 Auc 85 : 983 – MCMVII Ultra High
7/26–7/85
5 – NEAlg – $260,000 +10%
1804 13* 82 ... "ef-au" ex?
: 349 $19000 + 10%
27RS 25¢ ... : 677 $19,000 + 10%
: 678 ... $8000 + 10%
1797 ... no die lines, @ ½ ...
: 750 $42,500 +
1829 ... (P) 60 : ex E
: 918 – $9000
48 ... : 923 ex E $42000 +
75 ... (P) 927 ... 17500 +
50 (P) $3 ex E : 934 29000 +
75 ... : 936 91000 +
29 ... 941 95000 +
57 (P) " E : 948 38000 +
58 10 AU ex? : 958 5500
60 U E : 959 23,000
83 O ... : 963 4000
964 1900
07 10 ... 967 16000
968 38000

P221
1804
AU $20
↓
AU

20 ... 974 95500 +
" 75 (P) E 978 42000 +
" 83 " E 980 62000 +
" 84 " E 981 50000 +
21 U 989 13000 +
Kellogg ... 995 72500 +
51 ... vf : 1021 $2600 +
51 ... 4/83 1022 $2600 +
71 cc 100 ef : 1135 $1200 +
51 $ ... U : 1265 $10500 +
70 S ... : 1270 $32,500 +
22 ... 1277 $34000 +
56 (P) ... : 1367 $11500 +
61 D AU 1384 7000 +
41 ... vf 1419 11500
20 $ 10 U ... 1481 21,000
20 $ 20 U – 1491 10000
29 20 U 1496 10000 ...
... 10 AU 1498 9000
56:
165

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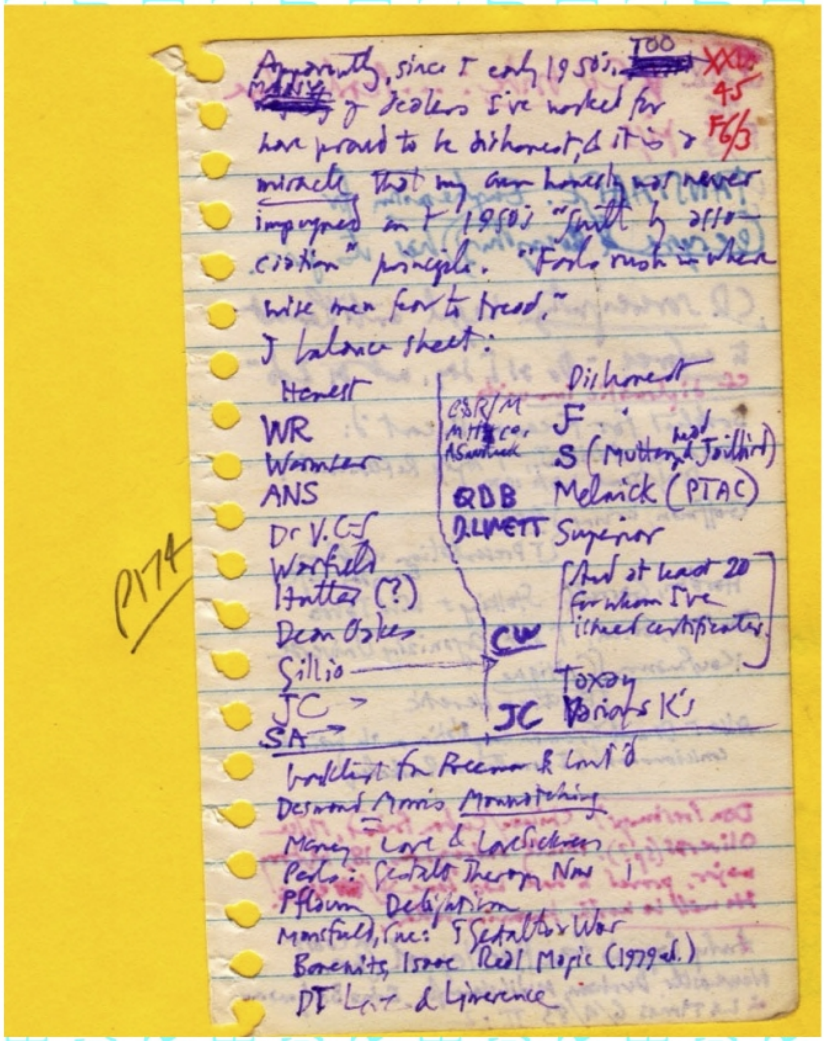
U.S. Mint in Phila. closed for Yellow Fever, dates.



NB 66:114
See Numisma #1.

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Honest turned dishonest.



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UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

The first issues of these conformed exactly to the specifications of the Mint Act of April 1792, as did their silver counterparts. None bore any mark of denomination before 1807. These, like most of the earliest Mint issues, have their classical counterpart as far as design is concerned. The verification for this has been recently found in an unexpected quarter. The reverse of the eagle and half-eagle of 1795 shows a naturalistic eagle standing on a palm branch and holding a wreath of laurel in his beak; the original of this design is a Roman (First Century B.C., matching the famous Gemma Augustea) onyx cameo, No. 166 in the Vienna Collections, No. 4 in Eichler-Kris's catalogue of the antique cameos in the Kunsthistorisches Museum at Vienna. This shows the eagle standing to right, but in attributes and workmanship bears a remarkable resemblance to the 1795 die. Later gold dies are less imaginative, simply following the model of the silver coins almost exactly.

Coinage was very limited in the early years for all denominations except half-eagles. No eagles were coined between 1805 and 1837 inclusive, apparently because of exportation. Quarter-eagles were coined only in small quantities at infrequent intervals, on demand. Even the half-eagles, which for long constituted the Mint's major output along with silver half-dollars and copper cents, belie their coinage records in that many dates are extremely rare. The explanation for all this is believed to lie in the fact that many millions of dollars in pre-1834 gold were returned to the Mint after that time and recoined, being worth more than face value. $100 face in old-style gold was worth over $106 in new style gold, and unworn specimens in the aggregate would exceed this premium.

Proof gold coinage began around 1821, that being with one exception the earliest date we find. The Mint Cabinet contains both the $5 and $2.50 of this year in proof, also 1824 and most later dates except 1849-53 inclusive. The exception mentioned is the 1804 eagle with plain 4 in date, and otherwise differing considerably from the single variety of the regular issue. There are two proofs in gold of this and about five in silver (AW23); no record of them exists before 1869, and as early as 1911 the opinion was voiced that these are restrikes. No real proofs could have been made before 1817, that being the year in which the Mint acquired its hydraulic press and struck off the first proof cents and half-dollars. Of proof gold the majority of issues before 1880 are very rare; some issues, such as the 1841 quarter-eagle, 1863 quarter-eagle, 1883-4 double eagles, and the well-known three-dollar pieces, are found only in proof or impaired proof condition.

The 1848 quarter-eagles with CAL over the eagle are properly experimental pieces. The alloy is not that authorized by the Government. The U.S. standard since 1837 was (per thousand) 900 parts gold, 33 to 50 parts silver, 67 to 50 parts copper. The alloy of California gold, and thus of these quarter-eagles, is approximately 888 parts gold to 108 parts silver to 4 parts of various other metals. It is easily distinguishable by its brassy color. The CAL stamped on the quarter-eagles was evidently done while each coin was in the die, as Proskey says; the letters were put in with a punch, and were stamped in by hand, as their placement differs somewhat on different coins. One or two are reported in brilliant proof condition.

This is not the only instance of unconventional gold alloys being used by the Mint, for experimental purposes. In the early thirties the Director submitted to a Congressional committee a half-dozen pieces of the same $2.50 denomination, struck in (1) pure gold, (2) 900 gold 100 silver, (3) 900 gold 100 copper, (4) 900 gold 33 silver 67 copper, (5) 900 gold 50 silver 50 copper, (6) 900 gold 67 silver 33 copper. These pieces were marked above the eagle by small punch-marks. The idea was for the Congressmen to decide among them and to authorize a mixture of silver and copper to be used in the alloy of gold coins to give them a good color. This was authorized in Section 8 of the Mint Act of 1837, some five years after the experiments took place.

A similar experimental alloy was used in the 1836 pattern gold dollars by Gobrecht. A few of these were struck in gold with silver alloy, and some more were made in the standard gold (AW50). Though Archives records are lacking, it would seem that these coins and this denomination were intended for the con-

sideration of Congressional committees who were then preparing the Mint Act of January 1837, mentioned above. This denomination was the first one authorized beyond the original three of the 1792 Mint Act, in any event. Longacre's designs were accepted, however, instead of the Mint's using the Gobrecht dies which were already at hand. (The Coiner used them to make a three-cent silver pattern in 1850.)

For the various types of heads on the 1849 gold dollars, see under "Notes."

The first gold dollars coined in 1873 (both Unc. and Proofs) have an almost closed 3 resembling an 8 and they have sometimes been mistakenly sold as 1878's. The Coiner complained to the Director about the closed 3 and subsequent dies have a more conventional open 3. The closed type is about six times as scarce as the open 3.

Many brass counterfeits (and some in other metals) of the gold dollars, and quite a number of $2½ and $5 in other metals including silver, are found and offered as "trial pieces". Several of these are listed in Adams-Woodin, and bear dates between about 1843 and 1861. No alleged trialpiece should be accepted unless in proof condition and unless the die work matches the genuine perfectly.

The other denomination authorized at the same time as the gold dollar, namely the double eagle, has an extremely complicated and interesting history, which we can only briefly allude to here. The first dies Longacre made were disapproved by the Coiner as being of too high relief; the first trials were made Dec. 22, 1849, upon which occasion the dies are said to have broken. Longacre then prepared, with the help of an unnamed engraver from New York, a second and third set of master dies. The first trials in base metal were taken January 12, 1850, and the first few gold (and one silver) strikes January 26, 1850; the same complaint was revived, and these dies (undated) were not used for the authorized coinage beginning in March 1850, but the third set was. By this time Longacre was at his wit's end. The preceding January, on account of much public reproach at not obtaining the double-eagles, Longacre was threatened with the loss of his job; C. C. Wright had already been approached for the Engravership and had accepted. Longacre retained his post only by rushing to Washington and enlisting some political assistance. By 1854 the whole incident ended with the Coiner's dismissal. One mystery is: what happened to the **other** 1849 double-eagles besides the Mint specimen? One was sent to the Secretary of the Treasury, and several were retained by the Director and the Coiner. Moreover, the Mint specimen was not from the first die, as it is not in high relief and will stack perfectly, which was the complaint against Longacre's first two attempts; they would not. Thus either the Coiner was lying, or the '1849' was made in 1850.

In 1861 a reverse die made by A. C. Paquet was accepted for regular use on the double eagle. Its distinctive feature is tall narrow lettering. The die is found on two coins from the Philadelphia mint (and on a few patterns dated 1859-60) and on a few S mint examples. The die was found unsuitable after these coins had been struck at Philadelphia and the Director sent orders to the branch mints countermanding its use. This order did not reach the San Francisco mint until after 19,250 pieces had been struck and released.

The other new denomination, rivaling the half-eagles of the 1820's and the double-eagles of the 1880's for the number of rarities, is the three-dollar piece. Fifteen proofs of the design later adopted were struck in April 1854 for presentation purposes. All the coins of 1854 and no later ones have small letters in DOLLAR. Proofs exist of all years through 1889, and at least two dates (1873 and 1875) were certainly restruck, accounting for the sizable excess of number extant over number originally struck and reported.

There are, unfortunately, no references at present which give much useful information, either on die varieties or anything else, for the gold coinages. Adams published a very incomplete list of die varieties of the eagles and half-eagles 1795-1804 in the 1934 Coin Collector's Journal, but many more varieties than he knew of have been recorded.

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NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

Where an unusually small coinage occurs we have placed the number in brackets after the date. Early dates 1795-1834 are quoted only in very fine condition. Worn specimens sell for less and really uncirculated pieces bring a great deal more.

Gold Dollars



1849 Type I. Small head, without L on truncation. Open wreath. Coronet point midway between two stars. Very rare.

1849 Type II. Small head, with L on truncation. Open wreath. Head placed as last. Scarce.

1849 Type III. Large head, with L on truncation. Open wreath. Coronet point nearer star immediately right of it. Common.

1849 Type IV. Large head as last. Closed wreath (see below). Common. Also known with a recut date.

1849. Open and closed wreath. The first issues of this year have a wreath with branches spread wide. In the latter part of the year the type shows the branches lengthened, drawn up to the top close to figure.

The record of four gold dollars coined at Charlotte in 1854 actually covers assay pieces of 1853 discovered to have been lost in transit to Philadelphia for the meeting of the Assay Commission in February 1854.

1855 C, D, O. The 8 in date is very weak and barely shows on any of these pieces. The 1855 D is the poorest struck.

1861 D. The entire issue of this date was struck by the Confederacy from United States dies. Unfortunately the account books of the Dahlonega Mint are not available so that the amount coined cannot be determined.

Quarter Eagles

1806 over 4, 6 over 5. The 1806 over 4 has five stars facing Liberty. The other variety has six stars facing.

1808. The bust on this coin is a copy of that on the Half Eagles, 1807-12.

1834 Motto over eagle. One of the great rarities. Probably not over a dozen are known.

1841. All known are proofs or impaired proofs.

1845 O. The 4000 specimens struck were actually coined in January 1846 before the 1846-dated dies had arrived, and had formerly been included under 1846 in the mint records.

Three Dollar Pieces

1854. The first year of issue has small letters in DOLLAR. 1855 and all following years show these letters larger.

The mint records were formerly thought to be confused on the numbers struck of 1873 and 1875. It is a fact that 1873 is far commoner than the mint records indicate, and that over 30 specimens exist of 1875, but this has been established to be a result of restriking.

1856 S. Large and small mint mark S of which the smaller is much the scarcest.

1870 S. Only two specimens were struck. One was put into the cornerstone of the new San Francisco Mint building, the other remains in a private collection.

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Half Eagles

The many great rarities in this series would make a story by themselves. Only a very small number of specimens are known of such dates as 1798 small eagle, 1815, 1819, 1821, 1822, 1824, 1827-8-9, 1832.

1795 Heraldic eagle. This coin is believed to have been an unintentional restrike, made in 1797 or 1798. The number of stars above the eagle proves that this could not have preceded the admission of Tennessee in June 1796.

1822. Only three specimens are known of this coin, one being in the U.S. Mint collection.

1825 over 4. The only one yet traced is the brilliant proof in the Eliasberg collection.

1832. Curled 2, 12 stars. ~~One of the rarest coins~~. The editor knows of only five pieces, two of which are in museums.

1841 O. Only two reported, only one seen (Col. Green, Farouk). Reverse of 1840 O.

1916. We have seen one or two coins of this date evidently of the Philadelphia mint but are not convinced they are not S mint coins poorly struck so that S does not show.

Eagles

The demand for the first types 1795 to 1804 continues unabated. Prices seem well stabilized. We have given a valuation on the dates 1838 to 1854 only in very fine condition as uncirculated specimens are rarely met with and those of a lesser grade seldom collected.

1804. Plain 4, proof. See under restrikes.

1907 St. Gaudens. This design has as interesting varieties as the double eagles, the two following really being patterns but generally accepted as part of a collection of eagles. Of the variety with periods and rolled edge only 42 were struck, while the same variety with sharp wire edge is said to have been coined to the extent of 500 pieces. Two of each were melted during Mint experiments.

The St. Gaudens type eagle has 46 stars on edge, 1907-1911. From 1912 to 1933 there are 48 stars.

The 1933 eagle remains a rare piece, even though several new specimens were recently reported discovered.

Double Eagles

Twenty Dollar pieces of the 19th century are very unusual in really uncirculated condition. These coins were made to use and are usually nicked and scratched by rubbing against one another in bags.

1854. Large date as on the silver dollar. Small date as on the cent.

1861 Paquet reverse. Two struck (Unc., not proof) at Philadelphia, Jan. 5, 1861, at which time the Director discovered that the reverse die was too wide, the borders too narrow. He immediately countermanded any further use of the design.

1861 S. Paquet reverse. There were 19250 of this type struck and released before the order from the Philadelphia Mint belatedly reached San Francisco forbidding the use of this reverse. These coins are now very rare. That they actually circulated is shown from the fact that the first one published (1937) came from a hoard in Hull, Texas.

1907 St. Gaudens. Roman numerals. The wire edge is not an intentional variant, unlike that on the eagles of this date, but instead a result of the collar giving way.

The St. Gaudens type produced in 1907 brought forth a number of interesting varieties including several patterns. Some of the dates after 1916 are of distinct rarity, especially some of the branch mints. All specimens of the 1933 coin have finally been returned to the Treasury Department by the U.S. Secret Service on the ground that they were not legally released by the mint.

The St. Gaudens double-eagle has 46 stars on obverse, 1907-1911. From 1912 to 1933 there are 48 stars on obverse.

UNITED STATES PROOF COINS

The introduction of this new feature in the catalogue is designed to point up the fact that, like both patterns and commemorative coins, United States proofs from dies of the regular types constitute a distinctive series entirely separate from the regular issue for circulation. Proofs, strictly speaking, are impressions from highly polished dies on polished planchets (except for the period 1908-16 when so-called mat (matte) or sandblast proofs were made, following the fashion introduced by the Paris Mint), never intended as circulating currency. They were 'polished-up portraits' of the coinage types, struck since 1817 for presentation to prominent officials or foreign dignitaries, and since 1858 also for sale to collectors at a premium. Though legal tender, just as are commemoratives, they were never counted as circulating coinage, and this fact is substantiated by the Bullion Journals and other official accounts of Mint coinage transactions. These contemporaneous accounts leave no room for doubt that proofs (at least before 1862-3) were, with the single exception of the Gobrecht Dollars, never included in reported coinage figures. Neither the gold and silver bullion nor copper planchets figured in the records. And after proofs began to be included with regular coinage in the Director's Reports in the sixties, the Coiner's accounts of proofs were still kept and submitted separately, with the medal accounts, to the authorities. This practice is known to have held at least through 1889, and its continuance for so many years strongly emphasizes the fact that proofs definitely form no part of regular coinage, but are a separate series altogether.

Up to the present time, with very few exceptions, the values attached to proof coins have not taken this fact into account. Such values have ordinarily been derived from the largeness or smallness of the **regular** coinage for circulation, whereas strictly speaking the rarities of uncirculated and of proof coins of the same date and denomination are independent, and the prices consequently should be also. Take for example the three-dollar goldpieces. Because of allegedly small reported coinages, 1873 and 1875-76 bring extremely high prices in proof; while dates such as 1855-6-7 and 1874, which are much more rare as proofs, bring far less simply because of larger quantities of coins reported for **circulation.** The double eagles in the 1880's are even more to the point. And in many other series proofs are twenty to 100 times commoner than uncirculated examples, particularly in the 1870's and 1880's; for example the three-cent nickels and half dollars between 1882 and 1887. The survival of mint state specimens is largely a matter of good fortune, whereas proofs were struck in fairly large numbers and now turn up frequently—at higher prices than the rarely seen uncirculated examples. We anticipate that this illogical situation will gradually correct itself when the correct relative rarities become known.

For all these reasons and others, it is expected that in future proofs, due to their greatly enhanced value, will be to a greater extent collected as an individual group independent of circulated and uncirculated coins of the same types, just as commemoratives are collected as a series by themselves and not mixed up with half-dollars of regular issue. This manner of collecting becomes more significant when one realizes that the rarities among a series of proofs are entirely different dates and types than the rarities among the corresponding series of coins struck for circulation, and that many dates coined in proof do not exist in specimens struck for circulation, or vice versa. In a set of proof dimes, for instance, the great rarities would be dates like 1820, 1824, 1838, 1841, 1849—53—all of these far from rare in ordinary condition; while dates like 1879-81 are rarely offered in any other condition but proof.

The commonly published statement that proofs were struck only in Philadelphia has a few authentic exceptions. The genuine proofs from the branch mints are separately tabulated. All of them are of extreme rarity.

Although we have a fairly complete account of the dates and denominations of proofs struck between 1817 and 1854, we are not pricing them in the present catalogue for several reasons. First, most of these (except half-cents and silver dollars in the 1840's) are so rare that sales of any particular items do not occur often enough to establish a stable price. Second, the prices they do bring do not

adequately reflect the relative rarities in each series, for the same reasons as were mentioned before in connection with the three-dollar pieces. Third, there still remain some problems connected with restriking in this group. Evidence continues to turn up that many dates and denominations of proofs were restruck in the 1860's, some from the original dies, others from new ones manufactured for the occasion. Obviously these belong neither here nor among the regular issues, but instead in the section devoted to restrikes.

With regard to early proofs, it is true that we find specimens of the silver coinage of 1796, and of some other issues of the period, with brilliant prooflike surfaces. Nevertheless, proofs in the true sense of the word were not struck until 1817. Facilities for their manufacture came to the Mint as part of the general renovation and improvement of machinery following the Mint fire of 1816, and in the next year some cents and half-dollars were struck in proof. For the twenty- or thirty-odd years following 1817, so far as is known, the Mint struck all or practically all its proofs in sets, and these sets were intended for presentation to visiting politicians and foreign dignitaries, mints or museums. In 1834, for example, the State Department ordered two complete sets of the year to be prepared, put in special caskets and sent to the Imam of Muscat and the King of Siam; and sporadic similar orders—rarely more than two or three per year—followed in subsequent years. The important exceptions to the above statement about proof distribution are the handling of the Gobrecht Dollars, which are really patterns, and the report that Mickley obtained four proof quarter dollars of 1827 from the Mint in that year for face value.

There is no unequivocal record of the Mint's having sold sets or individual proofs to private collectors before 1858. Recipients were charged face value plus $3 for the casket plus eight cents for proofing—this latter charge was even levied on the Mint Cabinet for proof sets in the 1860's. Both the first public sale of proof sets at a premium ($3 for the silver-minor set, $46 for the set with the gold) and the very name of **proofs** are the work of Col. James Ross Snowden, 1858. The name and the premium (gradually increased) have continued to the present day except for 1917-35 inclusive, 1943-49 inclusive, the only proofs besides patterns struck in those years being 1921 dollars (both types), some commemoratives and a few other items. Minor proof sets or individual coins were nowhere accounted for in the Archives until the beginning of 1878. The conjecture that they had been previously struck to the same number as silver proof sets may be very likely correct; but no evidence exists.

Italicized *values* are due for a sharp rise or fall; italicized *dates* were coined only in proof; italicized *quantities coined* are reconstructions.

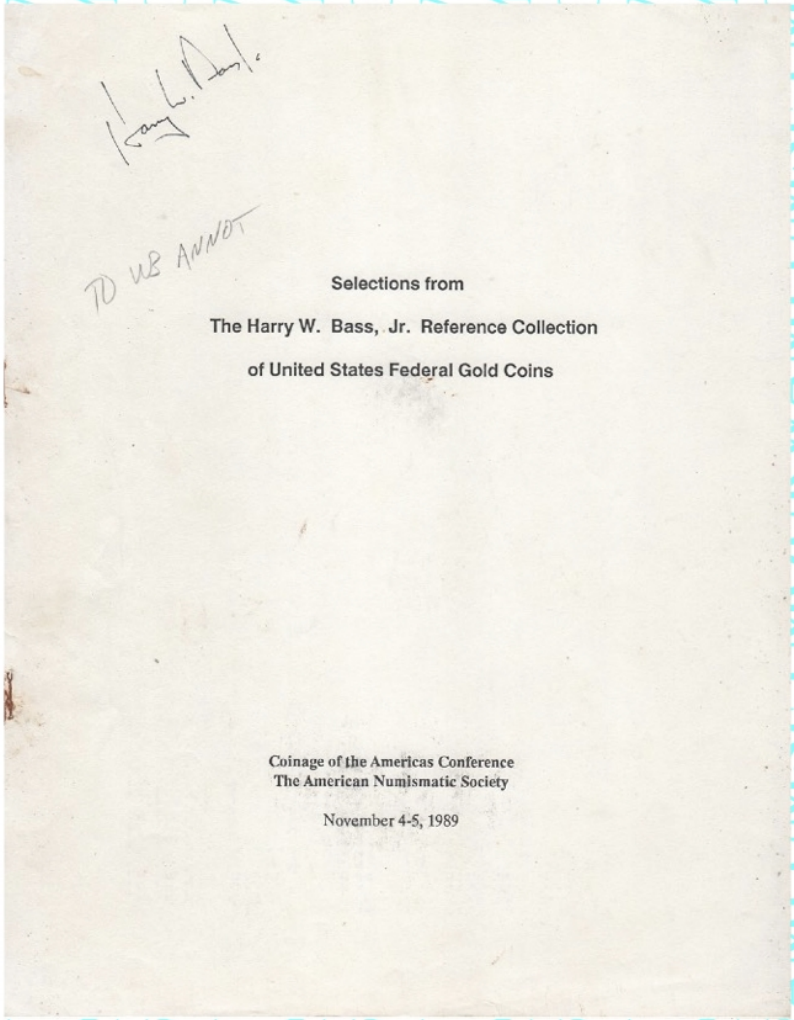
The French matte finish, with several minor variations, comes on Lincoln cents 1909-16, Buffalo nickels 1913-16, 1916 new type dime, quarter and half, 1908-12 gold. The sandblast finish comes on gold 1912-16 and 1921-22 Peace dollars as well as most commemoratives, 1921-36. Other coins have brilliant fields and unpolished high surfaces, like the 19th Century proofs. The late proofs since 1936 are almost uniformly mirrorlike.

~~1873-89~~

ABBR:
M matte
SB sandblast
"RG" Roman
SM semi-matte or satin finish

Asle HF -
to see a
fine-tuned proof
(1950—58)

Harry Bass Collection



Selections from

The Harry W. Bass, Jr. Reference Collection

of United States Federal Gold Coins

Coinage of the Americas Conference
The American Numismatic Society

November 4-5, 1989

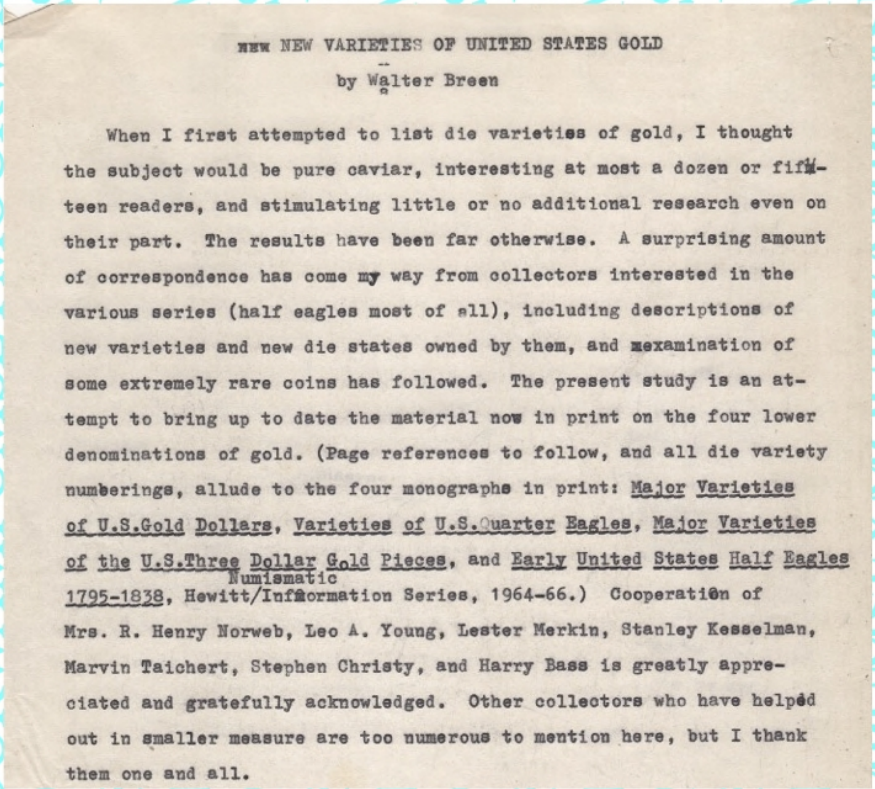
$2.50 U.S. Gold

Headings: Grp# = Case Group number. C# = Coin number within Group. O/R = Side displayed. Breen# = Breen's Encyclopedia number (with alpha suffixes added).
Breen Var. = Breen Monograph designation of variety. Bass Variety = Variety designation (obverse - numeric, reverse - alpha, or first year used and reverse letter used in that year).

Grp#	C#	O/R	Year/MM	Breen#	Breen Var.	Bass Variety	Description
1	1	O	1796	6113A	Breen 3.	1(a)A	OBV. Full bottom curls. REV. Cracks !!. 4 known
1	2	R	1796	6113A	Breen 3.	1(a)A	OBV. Full bottom curls. REV. Cracks !!.
2	1	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(b)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Lapped. Bottom curls weak.
2	2	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(c)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Additional lapping. Bottom curls now strands. → 5
2	3	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(d)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Lapped. Bottom curls weak. PL
2	4	R	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(d)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Additional lapping. Bottom curls are now strands. PL !!
3	1	O	1796WS	6114	Breen 2.	1A	OBV. 16 obv stars. Clashed O & R.
4	1	O	1797	6115	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Crack from !!! = ?
5	1	O	1798	6116	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Close date. REV. 4 berries.
5	2	O	1798	6117	Breen 2.	2B	OBV. Wide date. REV. 5 berries.
6	1	O	1802/1	6118	Breen ?.	1B	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Spike shield to wing.
6	2	R	1802/1	6118	Breen ?.	1A	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Leaf free of I.
6	3	R	1802/1	6118	Breen 3.	1B	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Spike shield to wing.
6	4	R	1802/1	6118	Breen ?.	1D	OBV. Date repunched. REV. 1st star double punched. A abutts wing.
7	1	O	1804	6119	Breen 1.	1(a)B	OBV. No crack at 4 of date. REV. 14 stars.
7	2	R	1804	6120	Breen 2.	1(a)A	OBV. No crack at 4 of date. REV. 13 stars.
7	3	R	1804	6119	Breen 1.	1(b)B	OBV. Crack at 4 of date. REV. 14 stars.
8	1	O	1805	6121	Breen 1.	1A	REV. Star 11 repunched.
8	2	O	1806/5	6123	Breen 2.	1/1805A	OBV. Repunched die of 1805. REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	3	O	1806/4	6122	Breen 1.	2(b)/1805A	OBV. CUD at LIB! REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	4	O	1807	6124	Breen 1.	1(a)/1805A	OBV. No cracks evident! REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	5	R	1806/4	6122	Breen 1.	2(a)/1805A	OBV. Crack at LIB. REV. That of 1805 1A.
9	1	O	1808	6125	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Usual crack from cap thru stars right.
10	1	O	1821	6126	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Scot's Capped Head. REV. This reverse reused in 1824 and 1825.
10	2	O	1824/1	6127	Breen 1.	1/1821A	Presentation strike! REV. That of 1821.
10	3	R	1824/1	6127	Breen 1.	1/1821A	OBV. Horn at slant of 4, possibly serif remnant of a 1. REV. That of 1821.
11	1	O	1825	6128a	Breen 12.	1/1821A(a)	OBV. Top of 5 is thin. REV. That of 1821, double struck. 5 known
11	2	O	1825	6128b	Breen 1.	2/1821A(a)	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. From 1821, not cracked.
11	3	R	1825	6128b	Breen 1.	2/1821A(b)	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. From 1821, now cracked.
11	4	R	1825	6129	Breen 2.	2B	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. New, reused in 1826-7.
12	1	O	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(a)/1825B-a	No clashing. REV. That of 1825 2B.
12	2	O	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(b)/1825B-b	OBV. Clashed. REV. That of 1825 2B, clashed.
12	3	O	1827	6131	Breen 1.	1/1825B-c	REV. That of 1825 2B, lapped after clashing in 1826.
12	4	R	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(b)/1825B-b	OBV. Clashed. REV. That of 1825 2B, clashed.
13	1	O	1829	6132	Breen 1.	1A	-0-
13	2	R	1829	6132	Breen 1.	1A	Presentation strike??
14	1	O	1830	6133	Breen 1.	1A	REV. New die, used thru 1834 With Motto. Recut U.
14	2	O	1831	6134	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	3	O	1831	6134	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	4	O	1832	6135	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	5	R	1830	6133	Breen 1.	1A	REV. New die, used thru 1834 With Motto. Recut U. ← WHY IS THIS OUT OF ORDER?
15	1	O	1833	6136	Breen 1.	1/1830A	Proof? REV. That of 1830.
15	2	O	1833	6136	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
15	3	O	1834WM	6137	Breen 1.	1/1830A	Impaired Proof? REV. That of 1830 A.
16	1	O	1834	6138	Breen II-1,B.	2B	Proof? OBV. Small head. REV. No recutting on E(S) or O(F), large arrowheads.
16	2	O	1834	6138	Breen II-1,A.	2B	OBV. Small head. REV. Large arrowheads.
16	3	R	1834	6138	Breen II-1,A.	2B	OBV. Small head. REV. Large arrowheads.
17	1	O	1834	6140	Breen II-3?.	3D	OBV. Large 'Booby' head. REV. Broken (A)M.
17	2	R	1834	6140	Breen II-3?.	3C	OBV. Large head. REV. A M apart, split berry.
17	3	R	1834	6140	Breen II-3?.	3D	OBV. Large head. REV. Broken M.
17	4	R	1834	6140	Breen II-3?.	3E	OBV. Large head. REV. Top arrowhead large.

SEYMOURWAMPUMS

WB: Varieties of U. S. Quarter Eagles original ms.



NEW NEW VARIETIES OF UNITED STATES GOLD

by Walter Breen

When I first attempted to list die varieties of gold, I thought the subject would be pure caviar, interesting at most a dozen or fifteen readers, and stimulating little or no additional research even on their part. The results have been far otherwise. A surprising amount of correspondence has come my way from collectors interested in the various series (half eagles most of all), including descriptions of new varieties and new die states owned by them, and examination of some extremely rare coins has followed. The present study is an attempt to bring up to date the material now in print on the four lower denominations of gold. (Page references to follow, and all die variety numberings, allude to the four monographs in print: Major Varieties of U.S.Gold Dollars, Varieties of U.S.Quarter Eagles, Major Varieties of the U.S.Three Dollar Gold Pieces, and Early United States Half Eagles 1795-1838, Hewitt/Information Numismatic Series, 1964-66.) Cooperation of Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Leo A. Young, Lester Merkin, Stanley Kesselman, Marvin Taichert, Stephen Christy, and Harry Bass is greatly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Other collectors who have helped out in smaller measure are too numerous to mention here, but I thank them one and all.

QUARTER EAGLES. 1796. A xerox copy of a one of the Edgar H. Adams notebooks, not earlier available to me and evidently of later date, gives different numbers and illustrates a new variety not otherwise known. As the photograph is a contact print presumably it is of a traceable specimen; but I would like to see the actual coin and make sure that Chapman did not make an error in mounting prints for his plate and mule the obverse of one coin with the reverse of another.

1796-1. No stars. Arrowheads about in line with r. side of N; no spur from 3rd feather; space between clouds below upright of E. The variety earlier described, and still high R-6.

1796-2. No stars. Adams 2, not in C or N. Obv. as No. 1, no stars, obxx die worn down. Rev. The die of 1797: OF farther from STATES, arrowheads end about below I (I in UNITED leaning a little right). Gable 358, fine, and no other reported. Subject to verification.

1796-2, with stars, should be called Adams 3. Later, shows crack from drapery through 796 and at bases of 17.

1797. At least nine different ones are now traceable.

1798. The two varieties listed are respectively Adams 1 and 2. Of the extremely rare no. 2, wide date with 5 berries, probably 8 or 9 are now known--comparable to 1797, which is reasonable considering the mintages. Gable 361 was called unc. but nicked up; it is not now identified. Woodin 931, VF, may be the Ten Eyck, Melish coin.

1802. B-1 is Adams 2; B-2 is probably Adams 3; B-3 is A-1, and is represented by Earle 2500, D.S.Wilson 158, Gable 362, Mills 53, H.P. Smith 240, Stickney 726 and others.

1802-4. This should read: 1st star recut, 9 points showing. Right edge of upright of E over space. Later, crack from wingtip at r. to border.

1804. Mintage figure should read 3327 in all. This was a typographical error; the division is correct. The two varieties are respectively Adams 1 and 2; the 13-star variety is represented in Adams b Earle 2502 and Malcolm Jackson 99.

1821 through 33. A few more proofs have turned up of most of these dates but in no case enough to affect rarity levels. For 1824 there is also a "one-sided" proof, ex Woodin 940, ex Cleneay. For 1825 the two varieties are Adams 1 and 2 respectively.

1827. The proof reported is Woodin 943, also ex Clenway, and also one-sided, the reverse being of proof sharpness but with mint bloom (unpolished die). On all genuine "one-sided proofs" the obv. is perfection with mirror surfaces, the rev. with mint bloom; this holds for all denominations in which they are known.

1834. II-3 should read: 11th and 12th stars recut.

1835-1 should read U close to leaf, not wing.

1836 III-2: about 5 now known, two in the Harry Bass collection, a third discovered by Clarence Rareshide, ex Grant Pierce.

1837-1. Later, cracks from both wingtips to borders.

1838-1. Later, recuttings fade out. John Rowe showed me a gem unc.

1839/8 D. Rev. Arrows merge in CA. Later, crack through bases of UNITED; still later, from rim to second T in STATES to eagle's head--this state quite rare.

1839 O-1. I_n date 39 low, mintmark left of center above 3. Rev. D low, first S high, and on some specimens (lapped dies?) arrow shafts are disconnected from claws.

1840. Later, clash mark (?) from wing at left to leg near branch;

Research In The Archives Gold Coinage revisions By Dates. Walter Breen (Cont.) November December 1951. WB's copy.

RESEARCH IN THE ARCHIVES

GOLD COINAGE REVISIONS BY DATES

By WALTER BREEN

CONTINUED

Philadelphia

For brevity I omit the quarterly figures, but the figures presented are valid and all are based on the (sometimes weekly) reports in the Bullion Journals. The totals in American State Papers—Finance contain typographical errors. Another source of confusion previously has been the fact that Director's Reports in 1796-7 were ordered by Congress prematurely. The 1796 report was delivered Nov. 29 and consequently a delivery of 854 eagles, 2797 half-eagles and 897 quarter eagles was included by error in the 1797 report although all these were made in 1796 to be exact, between Dec. 8 and Dec. 22. This is corrected here.

	$10	$5	$2½	
1795	2795	8707		
1796	6934	6196	963	(both types)
1797	8323	3609	859	
1798	7974	24867	614	

N. B. First coinage of 1798 half-eagles Jan. 4, 691 pieces—were these the small eagle type? I believe that a study of early gold die varieties would prove that the 1795 heraldic $5.00 were made in 1798.

1799 17483 7451 480 Dec. 28

All other published figures confirmed though no explanation appears for the unknowns (1801 $5, 1802 $10, 1803 $2.50). The latter were not carryovers.

1807. There is no reasonable evidence for or against Snowden's division of the $5: 33496 Type I
50597 Type II

1808-14. No problems.

1815. 635 Nov. 13 plus 3 for assay. The Coiner had $3661.33 in gold fit for coining 12/31/15; no more coined because of the Mint fire which made extensive repairs necessary to the rolling apparatus.

1818-33. No questions. Figures obtained (as above) confirm published.

1834. Motto $5—74709, $2½—4000 Coinage stopped May 30 anticipating the reduction in weight. The Act of 6/28 became effective on August 1, 1834.

Snowden doubts that the $2.50 were ever issued. No Motto $5—685028, $2½—112234.

In 1835-6 approximately $2 million of gold of former ratio was recoined; far smaller amounts thereafter. The totals are not determinable since accounting of source of bullion deposits is far from complete. The whole amount of gold of former ratio brought into the Mint cannot be far below $3 million and may exceed it.

1838. Coinage of Eagles resumed December; four "specimen coins" sent on or before Dec. 10. One of 1838 (and-one of 1839) proof is in the Mint Collection.

1841 Quarter Eagles. None reserved for assay. Evidently they were only a "specimen" coinage like the half-cents.

1849. Gold Dollars. Coinage started May 8. There exist a few pieces with small head somewhat differently executed and placed than on the regular; one is in the Mint Cabinet and is the first gold dollar proof I have seen and the second I ever heard of, moreover besides the 1849 $20 it is the only proof coin of that date in the collection. Probably a pattern as this type head was not perpetuated. It is impossible to say when the open wreath was replaced by the closed wreath; no data are known to me on this subject other than letters (far later) of the D/M saying that the open wreath were the "first issue".

1850. Regular $20 coinage for circulation started March 12. A proof was in the J. B. Longacre collection.

1854. Probably the best division would place the gold dollars as follows:

Type I 840040
Type II 799405

The difficulty here is in assigning a delivery of August 19 (56097). The first "specimens" sent the Secretary of the Treasury for approval were transmitted August 17; when his letter of approval arrived is unknown—it has not been found in the Archives. Coinage had been intermitted since June 17 (783943 till then); evidently the change of type was then contemplated. If the Sec'y telegraphed his reply, it is possible that the Aug. 19 delivery was of Type II; but no real evidence. In the absence of better data, the figures I gave above (allowing the Aug. 19 delivery to be included as Type I) will stand. It is almost certain that the Sec'y approval came on or before Aug. 24 and that is the assumption I am proceeding on.

$3.00 gold: Regular coinage started May 1, first delivery 23140 on May 8. On April 28, 15 "specimens" were enclosed in a letter of the Director to the Sec'y of the Treasury.

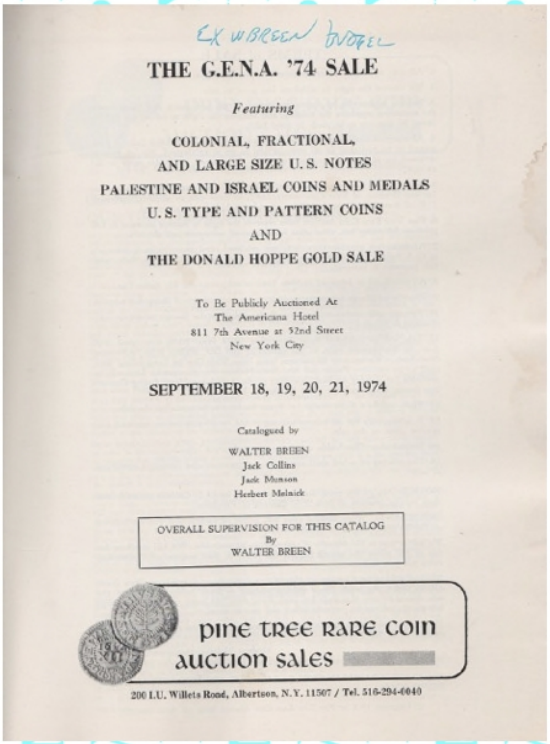
1858. The 2521 eagles did not include proofs, as far as can be learned.

It may be mentioned that around 1860 the Director caused about $2 million in gold dollars of the small size to be remelted and recoined. These pieces had lain for years in the N. Y. Assay office, and in the Director's Report (for 1860 or 61, I believe) there is mentioned his belief that the rest ought to be gradually recalled, the "evil" of having two coins of different sizes but same value being only too apparent. Whether any more were actually recoined I have been unable to find out, but the chances are that any subsequent recoinage was small on account of the suspension of specie payments and the consequent hoarding of what precious metals were available during the Civil War.

Later notes on gold coin will be found among proof coin notes.

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WB's copy GENA PTA 9/1974.



Ex W Breen Budget

THE G.E.N.A. '74 SALE

Featuring

COLONIAL, FRACTIONAL,
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PALESTINE AND ISRAEL COINS AND MEDALS
U. S. TYPE AND PATTERN COINS
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THE DONALD HOPPE GOLD SALE

To Be Publicly Auctioned At
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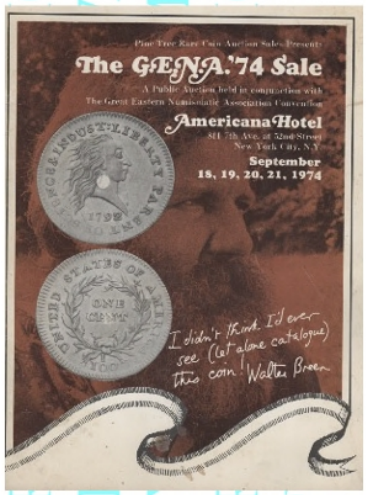
SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20, 21, 1974

Catalogued by
WALTER BREEN
Jack Collins
Jack Munson
Herbert Melnick

OVERALL SUPERVISION FOR THIS CATALOG
By
WALTER BREEN

pine tree rare coin
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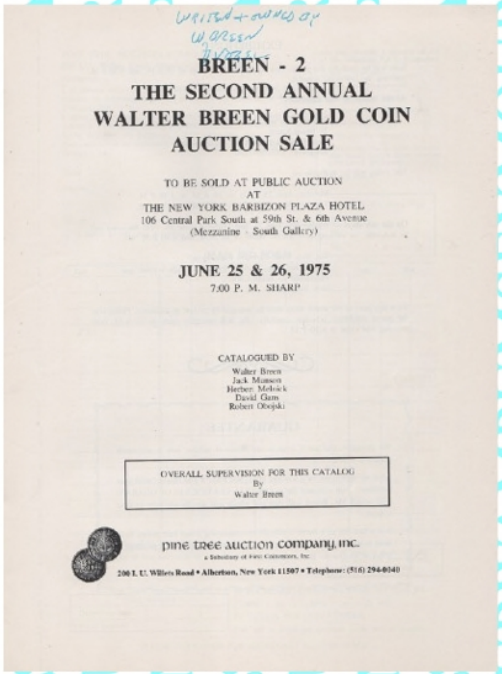
QUARTER EAGLES
CAPPED BUST RIGHT
HERALDIC EAGLE DESIGN (1797–1807)

1799 **1806/4.** B–1. Details range from **VG to nearly VF** in sharpness, surfaces lightly porous and nicked; a glass discloses signs of repair in several places, effective enough that it is impossible to tell if solder ever touched this coin—more likely initials or the like were removed. Acceptable example of this rarity, only **1,136 made** (the other 480 for the year were 1806/5 coins). Ex Gilhousen 105, laconically described as "VG". **(Photo) ($2,000.–up)**

1800 **1807.** Only the one variety; popular final year of the design. Details range from **Fine to VF,** surfaces granular, especially below central obv., above central rev.; rim nick above first T of STATES, slightly bent area above B. A glass shows that edge right of that area has been smoothed down (not visible from either side), but there are no other definite signs of repairs. **(Photo) ($1,500.–up)**

P.T.A. Breen 2 6/1975 WB's copy.





WRITTEN + OWNED BY
W. BREEN
WALTER

BREEN - 2
THE SECOND ANNUAL
WALTER BREEN GOLD COIN
AUCTION SALE

TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION
AT
THE NEW YORK BARBIZON PLAZA HOTEL
106 Central Park South at 59th St. & 6th Avenue
(Mezzanine - South Gallery)

JUNE 25 & 26, 1975
7:00 P. M. SHARP

CATALOGUED BY
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EXTREMELY RARE 1888 PROOF



554 **1888.** B-1. **Brilliant Proof,** some planchet irregularities as made—minute black inclusions (in the ingot from which the strip was rolled to make this planchet) near O in OF; granularity (obviously in flan before striking) down from rear feather and at CA; three or four minute contact marks on reverse. Better than the average proof of this date, many of the survivors being poorly cleaned or nicked and scratched. Similar overall in quality to the Scanlon, "Westchester," and Pierce-Jay-Ullmer 432, **this last at $6,000.** Ex Dr. Calvert L. Emmons coll., later lot 803, Stack's Oct. 1970 (MHS) sale. **(Photo)**
Tops of UNITED normal; level date.

555 **1888. B-2. Brilliant Borderline Unc. and lustrous.** A few microscopic hairlines on obv., so small it takes a strong glass to see them, otherwise choice in every way. Very well struck.
Tops of UNITED plainly double cut.

556 **1888.** B-2. Another. **Brilliant, frosty, Unc.** No discernible nicks or bag marks. **Only 5,000 struck,** April 18, 1888 and rare. **(Photo)**

557 **1888.** Another B-2. **Brilliant, lustrous About Unc.** Scattered, tiny unobtrusive bag marks. A desirable specimen of the date and type.

RARE 1889

558 **1889.** B-2. **Brilliant and Frosty Unc.** Only 2,300 struck, many of these melted, and much rarer than the 1887 or 1888 in all grades. Popular final year of the denomination and the type. Slightly finer than the 1974 Breen I Sale coin which sold for $2,800.
Tips of all non-proofs.

2½ DOLLAR GOLD
CAPPED BUST TO RIGHT
STARS ON OBVERSE
1796-1807

RARE 1802

559 **1802.** B-1 (R-6). **This has some details of EF, others more like VF;** date 1821 faintly pin scratched below drapery, obviously cleaned areas on obv. where other graffiti were skillfully removed. Reverse better and lustrous. **(Photo)**
Long spine leftward into wing from upper left corner of shield.

RARE 1802, B-4



560 **1802.** B-4, (R-5). **Some details Ex. Fine, others VF,** lustrous surfaces more like EF—rev. fields better than obv.; couple of tiny rim nicks, small rev. edge rub mark from a touchsome (as commonly) slight granularity in centers, various light handling marks. **no finer ones recently offered. (Photo)**
First rev. star heavily double punched.

RARE 1804



561 **1804.** B-1. **Fourteen Stars.** (R-5) **More or less Ex. Fine, some lustre,** many light obv. adjustment marks, plainest at borders; scattered minute handling marks. About equal overall to Bell II 80, Beck 92, Miles 84 and Breen I, lot 50; finer than Forrest 78-79 or Gilhousen 103, the latter reappearing as "Rio Rancho" **71 at $3,800;** but this variety usually comes in VF or worse, and there are only two anywhere close to mint state. **(Photo)**

RARE 1807



562 **1807.** Only the one variety, popular final year of the design. **Obtained as "Ch. AU," this has lovely lustrous surfaces consistent with that grade; sharpness of some details is indeed AU,** others are EF. Small, unimportant edge dent opposite first star. One for type collectors. Ex 1974 ANA Convention sale, lot 820, as EF, at a healthy $3,500, but worth more today. **(Photo)**

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE RARE 1807

563 **1807.** Another. **This also is between EF and AU,** bright and lustrous, with several obv. pin scratches an edge dent on either side. Better looking than it sounds; well struck and with good surfaces, the reverse particularly attractive. **(Photo)**

564 **1807.** A Third. **Classical example of Extremely Fine grade, some mint lustre** (plainest in rev. fields), trivial handling marks. (The small mark below ER on rev. is from foreign matter adhering to the die.) Obtained as "AU," of course, and it is actually fairly close to that level. This is the equal of Miles 88 and Ullmer 355, the latter at $2,900. **(Photo)**

CAPPED BUST TO LEFT, REDUCED SIZE 1821-1834
(COINS OF 1829-1834 ARE SMALLER IN DIAMETER THAN THE 1821-1827 COINS)

SUPERB 1830



565 **1830.** Only the one variety. **Brilliant Unc.,** usual uneven strike, some prooflike surface, some slight local

granularity in planchet (before striking); three shallow and completely trivial rim dents, not worth describing. **A beautiful example of this rare date; one of possibly a half dozen surviving in this condition,** and certainly an outstanding piece for the collecter in need of this design. This is the twin of the Roach-Grant, Pierce-Miles coin (lot 96); it is slightly finer than Ullmer 360 (which was rubbed in fields) at $5,750. **It has not been exceeded in quality in many years, and has not been elsewhere matched in the last couple of decades. (Photo)**

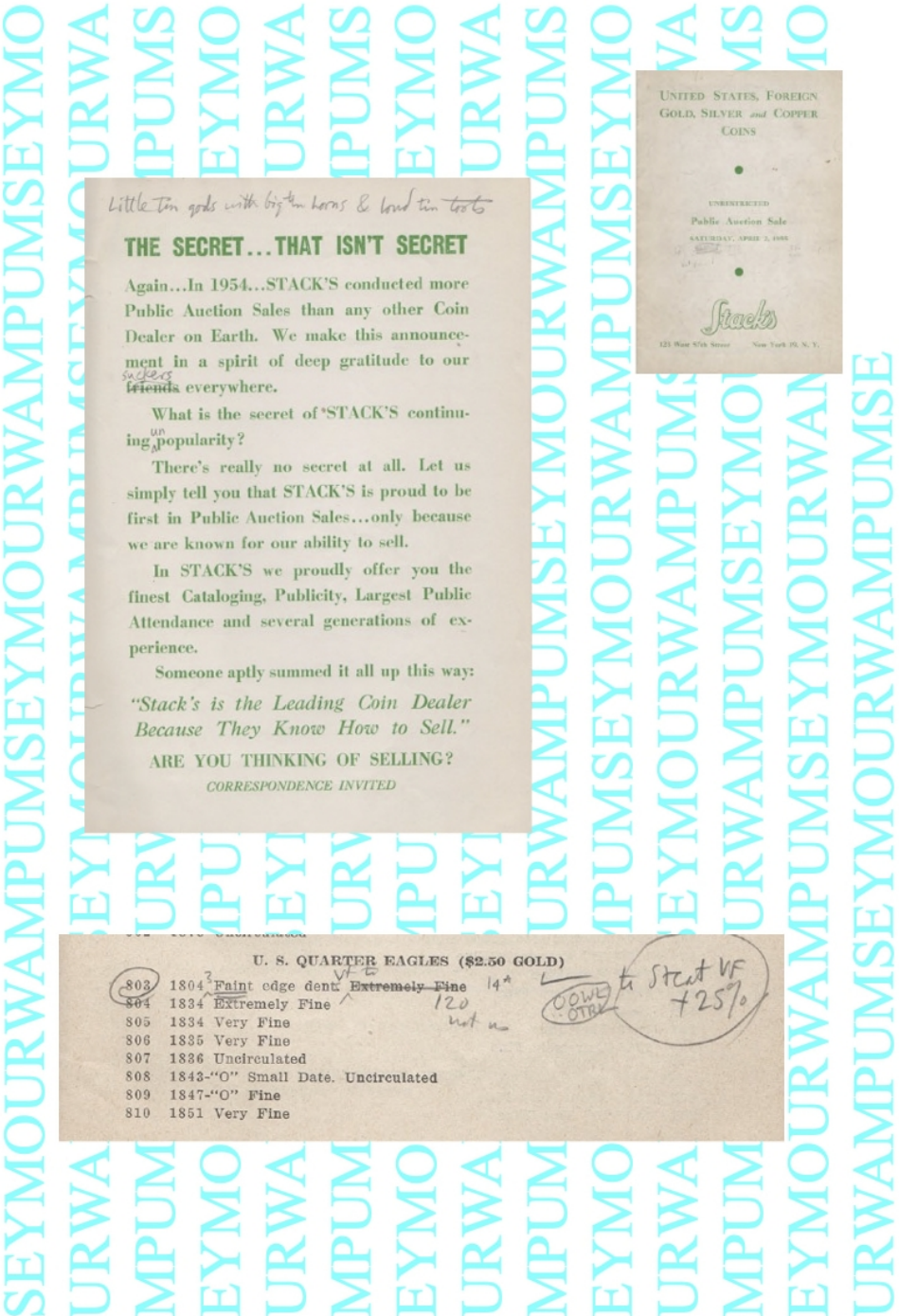
RARE 1832

566 **1832.** B-1, only the one variety. **Obtained as "BU," this is a brilliant borderline Unc.** with a few trivially minute handling marks. Much finer than Beck 102 or that in the Merkin Sept. 1967 sale, this is very similar to WGC 98 and Bell I 98, and **the identical twin of Winter 501 at a record $5,500.** Lovely. **(Photo)**

567 **1832.** Another. **Sharpness of EF,** somewhat porous surfaces more like VF; several tiny rim nicks, one on obv. Finer than Lovi-Turrini piece and at least equal to Gilhousen 116. **(Photo)**

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Stack's 4/1955, WB annotated.



Little tin gods with big tin horns & loud tin toots

THE SECRET...THAT ISN'T SECRET

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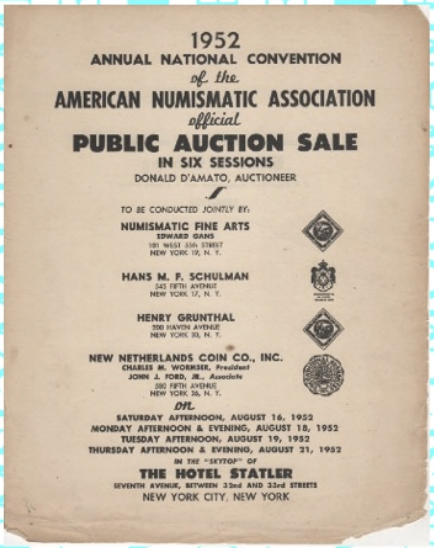
Stack's

123 West 57th Street New York 19, N. Y.

U. S. QUARTER EAGLES ($2.50 GOLD)

803 1804 Faint edge dent. ~~Extremely Fine~~ VF to
804 1834 Extremely Fine
805 1834 Very Fine
806 1835 Very Fine
807 1836 Uncirculated
808 1843-"O" Small Date. Uncirculated
809 1847-"O" Fine
810 1851 Very Fine

WB's copy: Office Copy ANA 1952.



1952
ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
of the
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
official
PUBLIC AUCTION SALE
IN SIX SESSIONS
DONALD D'AMATO, AUCTIONEER

TO BE CONDUCTED JOINTLY BY:

NUMISMATIC FINE ARTS
EDWARD GANO
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NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

HANS M. F. SCHULMAN
545 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

HENRY GRUNTHAL
200 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 33, N. Y.

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CHARLES M. WORMSER, President
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OR

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 16, 1952
MONDAY AFTERNOON & EVENING, AUGUST 18, 1952
TUESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 19, 1952
THURSDAY AFTERNOON & EVENING, AUGUST 21, 1952
IN THE "SKYTOP" OF
THE HOTEL STATLER
SEVENTH AVENUE, BETWEEN 33rd AND 33rd STREETS
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK



1952
A.N.A.
CONVENTION SALE
CATALOG

AUGUST 16TH, 18TH, 19TH, 21ST

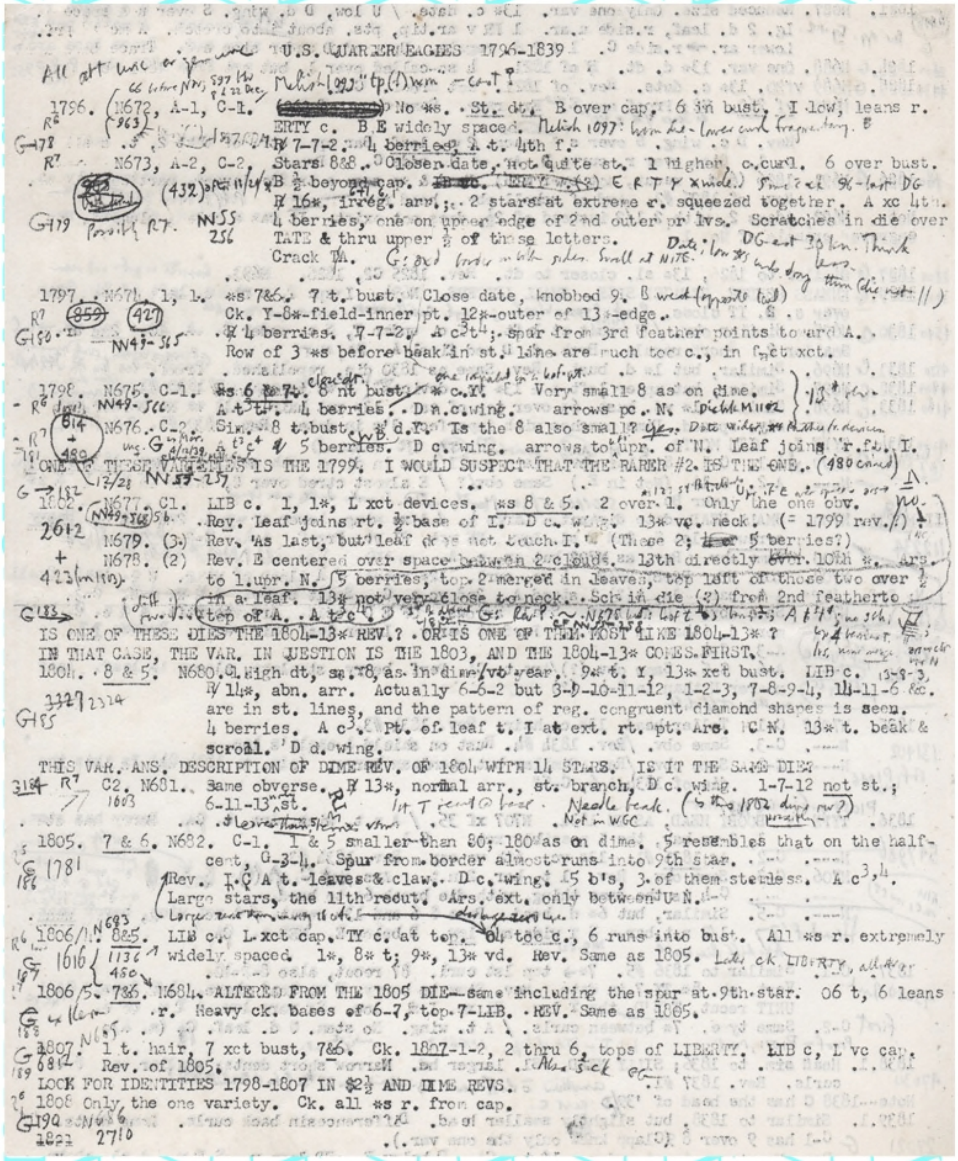
HOTEL STATLER
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.



571 1916. McKinley Memorial. Niles, Ohio. Brilliant Unc. Only 9,977 pieces coined. Scarce.
572 **Quarter Eagles. 1833.** Round cap on Liberty; Motto over eagle. Ex. Fine. This rare coin is almost Uncirculated. but it has been cleaned and slightly handled. Worth $65.00 today.
573 1834. New type, no motto over eagle. Ex. Fine. Brilliant, apparently struck as a Proof.
574 1836. Just about Uncirculated. Lustrous, and with a broken obverse die.
575 1902. Uncirculated. Becoming hard to find so.
576 1904. Brilliant Uncirculated. Almost perfect.
577 1905. Brilliant "Gem" Proof. A sparkling little beauty.
578 1905. Brilliant Uncirculated. Unusually choice.
579 1911 "D". The rarest variety of the Bela L. Pratt Indian head design. Ex. Fine. Lists at $20.00 in only V. Fine.
580 1926. Sesquicentennial. The last Gold Commemorative struck. Brilliant Uncirculated.
581 1926. As the last. Uncirculated. 2 Pcs.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. QE 1796-1839.

Original color scan is very difficult to read, B&W superior.



U.S. QUARTER EAGLES 1796-1839

1796. N672, A-1, C-1. No #s. St. dt. B over cap. 6 in bust. I low, leans r. ERTY c. B E widely spaced. R 7-7-2. 4 berries. A t. 4th f.

N673, A-2, C-2. Stars 8&8. Closed date, not quite st. 1 higher, c.curl. 6 over bust. B ½ beyond cap. R 16#, irreg. arr.; 2 stars at extreme r. squeezed together. A xc 4th. 4 berries, one on upper edge of 2nd outer pr lvs. Scratches in die over TATE & thru upper ½ of these letters. Crack TA.

1797. N674, 1, 1. #s 7&6. 7 t. bust. Close date, knobbed 9. Ck. Y-8#-field-inner pt. 12#-outer of 13#-edge. R 4 berries. 7-7-2. A c²t⁴; spur from 3rd feather points to ard A. Row of 3 #s before beak in st. line are much too c., in fact xct.

1798. N676, C-1. #s 6 & 7. 8 nt bust. * c.Y. Very small 8 as on dime. A t t². 4 berries. D n.c.wing. arrows pc. N.

N676, C-2. Sm. 8 t.bust. d.Y. Is the 8 also small? Yes. Date wider. A t c⁴ & 5 berries. D c. wing. arrows to upr. of N. Leaf joins r.fd. I.

ONE OF THESE VARIETIES IS THE 1799. I WOULD SUSPECT THAT THE RARER #2. IS THE ONE.

1802. N677, C1. LIB c. 1, 1#, L xct devices. #s 8 & 5. 2 over 1. Only the one obv. Rev. leaf joins rt. ½ base of I. D c. wing. 13# vc. neck. (= 1799 rev.)

N679. (3) Rev. As last, but leaf does not touch I. (These 2; 5 berries?)

N678. (2) Rev. E centered over space between 2 clouds. 13th directly over 10th #. arr. to l.upr. N. 5 berries, top 2 merged in leaves, top left of those two over ½ in a leaf. 13# not very close to neck. Set in die (3) from 2nd featherto top of A. A t c.

IS ONE OF THESE DIES THE 1804-13# REV.? OR IS ONE OF THEM MOST LIKE 1804-13# ? IN THAT CASE, THE VAR. IN QUESTION IS THE 1803, AND THE 1804-13# COMES FIRST.

1804. 8 & 5. N680. High dt, sm. 8, as in dime/vd rear. 9# t. I, 13# xct bust. LIB c. R 14#, abn. arr. Actually 6-6-2 but 3-9-10-11-12, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-4, 14-11-6 &c. are in st. lines, and the pattern of reg. congruent diamond shapes is seen. 4 berries. A c³. Pt. of leaf t. I at ext. rt. pt. Ars. C N. 13# t. beak & scroll. D d. wing.

THIS VAR. ANS. DESCRIPTION OF DIME REV. OF 1804 WITH 14 STARS. IS IT THE SAME DIE?

C2. N681. Same obverse. R 13#, normal arr., st. branch, D c. wing. 1-7-12 not st.; 6-11-13 st.

1805. 7 & 6. N682. C-1. 7 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on dime. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, G-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star. Rev. I.C A t. leaves & claw. D c. wing. 5 b's, 3 of them stemless. A c³,⁴. Large stars, the 11th recut. Ars. ext. only between U N.

1806/5. 7&6. N684. ALTERED FROM THE 1805 DIE—same including the spur at 9th star. 06 t, 6 leans r. Heavy ck. bases of 6-7, top 7-LIB. REV. Same as 1805.

1806. 8 & 6. N683. LIB c. L xct cap. TY c. at top. 6 too c., 6 runs into bust. All #s r. extremely widely spaced. 1#, 8# t; 9#, 13# vd. Rev. Same as 1805. Lac ck LIBERTY, all #s r.

1807. 1 t. hair, 7 xct bust, 7&6. Ck. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBERTY. LIB c, L vc cap. Rev. of 1805.

LOOK FOR IDENTITIES 1798-1807 IN $2½ AND DIME REVS.

1808 Only the one variety. Ck. all #s r. from cap.

1821. N687. Reduced size. Only one var. 13* c. date. / U low, D d. ring. S over u & space l.
Lg. 2 d. leaf, r.side u.ar. l PR v ar.tip, pts. about ½ to crotch. A mc. Prf.
Lower ar. → r.side C. l & 2 d. regular. Upr. of D under stem end. Trace base arcl
1824. N688. One var. 13* d. dt. ½ of 1821. L so-called over l, but not from 1821 obv. Prf.
1825. N689 vf 20. 13* c. date. Rev. of 1821. Not proof. C-2.
N690. vf 250. C2; Proof now. EF Ex. rare. Same obv. C-2.
Rev. D c. wing. S over s. & space. 2 vc. leaf. Bar opp. ctr. of that 2, t. small 2,
o. l. Stem over r. curve D. Ar. → l. side C. Proof.
1826. N691. 1826 (6 d. recut, not over a 5). Head & as a trifle larger, particularly *s.
Rev. of 1825 #2. Axd of scroll obv., head rev. Prf(?) Ned 2405
Note. N692, Adams 2, with 2 1/2 instead of 2½, does not exist. It was a holed, plugged, re-
engraved example of No. 1.

1827. Similar to 182[illegible], 13* sl. closer to dt. Rev. 1825 C2, 1826. N693.
1829. KNEASS BORDER, REDUCED SIZE. SMALL LETTERS. N694. I vsp c, s rt. u. left of S. Stem
over c. D. IT close.
1830. N695. Similar obv. / U recut at left. I c. under T, S c. under S. A IC. 2nd ar. →
Smaller 2. Short regula. Brch. d. U and final A.
1831. N696. Similar, but 1* d. bust. Rev. Same as 1830 die, repolished. Proof.
1832. N697. Similar, but upper left * & 13* vc. devices. 2 *s t. cap. a
1833. N698. Similar. 1* yd. bust. 6* over top of cap. 13* xct hair. All *s xc border, not
*ly. spaced. Dime punches with imperfect 3's in date. Rev. 1830 #1. Prf.
1834. TYPE I: WITH MOTTO. E
N699. A-1. C-1. Similar obv. plain small 4 as in dimes with small 4. Rev. 1830 #1.
N---. A-2. C-1A. (Not in E.) Same obv. / E about ctred over U, while in No. 1 E is
over BU.
II: NO MOTTO. N700. SMALL HEAD, date distant. Large 4. / A xc ding. Lower ar. → n. A. 2nd xct C. Heavy
arrows. 1st S, 2nd D sl. low. ME xct, RI vc. Proof. A-1. C-2.
N703. Same obv. Rev. as N702 but ar. c. A.
N702. LGR. HD. BOOBY HEAD. 4 vc. curl. 12* recut. / A clear of wing. U c. leaf. Small
Prf. 1 t. bar. Ar. t(?) l. stand. A., 2nd vc c. C. Split berry. A M w. A-5. C-3.
N701. Same obv. / U d. leaf. Small arrows. OF E p recut. Ars. to rt. A & c. C, both
more d. (than in N700.) Perfect berry. Lower leaf pair recut. Broken M.
A-3, C-4.
N---. A-4 & C-5. Same obv.(?)/Ars. to rt. A. Perf. berry, stemless, closer to leaf. Leaf
nearer N than in C-4. (?)

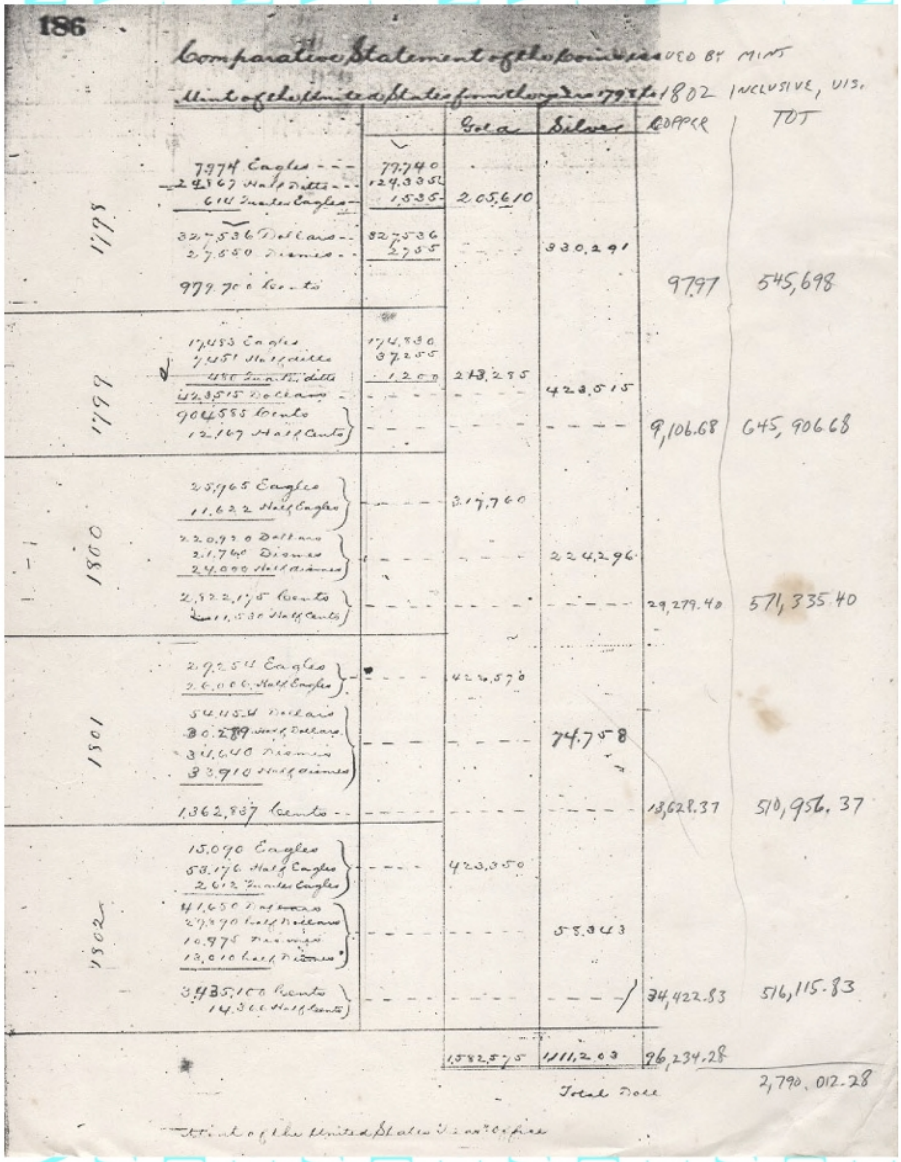
1835. N704? C-1. Taller head, 13* c. hair. Rev. 1834 #3.
N---. C-3. Same obv. /Rev. 1834 #4. Rust on shield & eagle's leg.
N---. C-2. Same obv. / Rev. Similar but stemless berry. (sim. to 1834 C4) Is this the
die of 1834 A-6, C-5?

1836. TYPE I: BOOBY HEAD, AS IN 1834. N707 xf 35. / A n.t. wing. Ars. t. C. Berry has stem.
1, 2 xc bar, the 1 possibly xct. C-1.
N---. C-2. As 1835 #1. 13* vc. 6th vc cap. Rev. 1834 #3.
N706. C-3. Same obv. Rev. Rl t. bar, 2 n.t. Ars. xct C.
N---. C-4. is the same thing, with die break 6* to band.
N---. C-5. Similar, but 6* d. head. Base 8 6 and 13* recut. / A xct wing, berry weak.
1/8 n.t. bar. S T wide and low. D below E. MER c. CA.

1837. C-1. Similar to 1836 #5. 7*→ top 1st curl. 87 recut, also 8-9-10.
Vert. sk. 8* IY-7 in date. Rev. Stem to berry. U vc leaf above. 1/2 free. CA
UNIT recut, T E D the T low. RI xc. I sl. low. Sl very low. A T w. OF c.
C-2, Same ty e. 7* between curls. / A t. wing. No stem. U d. leaf. C
1838.1. Head sim. to 1836; SILLY HEAD. Sl. larger hd. Narrow short dents; smaller *s. 8 vc.
curls. Rev. 1837 #1.
Note--1838 C has the head of '39 D
1839.1. Similar to 1838, but slightly smaller head. Differences in back curls. Long dents.
C-1 has 9 over 8 (Clapp knew only the one var.).
Rev. No stem. A n.t. wing. 1½ t. CA. D below E. ED lean r. S T w. A sl. above
T. OF c. ME xct. AM and ER are both equally xc.

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Mint Letters 1798-1802; 1803 totals. Microfilm.



Microfilm Letters page 175-6 paraphrased, 11/9/02: Nathaniel Thomas former Clerk removed "[…]a number of papers belonging to the Treas. Dept., the contents of which are unknown[…]". He was caught redhanded, he denied it, when they tired to search him he "violently" ran off. But next day

he returned "certain papers." Boudnoit ordered Msrs Cloud, Eckfeldt, Ehrenszeller, Scot to examine papers & establish the facts. Then brief Mr. Dallas the attorney for the U.S. in this District. Next day Director says Treas. was in neglect.

Annual Report 1802 (Letters page 180) "[…]Gold $516,115.83 coined. $129,730 coined from bullion & gold dust imported & from Union. The remainder has come from "clipped, plugged & otherwise spoiled Foreign coins." Most of this went to The Bank of the U.S. for redemption of $5 notes.

Gold struck 1802 July-Sept. 1,634, Oct.-Dec. 958.

—Letters page 183: First coinage July 31, 1795.

—Ltrs. p. 43 First gold coinage July 31, 1795

SEYMOURWAMPUM

WB's annotated 1959 ANA catalogue.



MO WA MS MO WA MS MO WA MS MO WA MS MO
SEYM URW MPUM EYM URW MPUM EYM URW MPUM EYM URW MPUM EYM URWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSE

of 54 proofs includes only proofs, as deceptive first strikes exist. I have not yet had the opportunity to check them over for die varieties.

1885-3. This also comes with reverse severely clashed.

1886-3. Microscopic examination makes it a little more nearly certain that the peculiarity around the 6 is a clash mark.

QUARTER EAGLES. 1796. A xerox copy of one of the Edgar H. Adams notebooks, not earlier available to me and evidently of later date, gives different numbers and illustrates a new variety not otherwise known. As the photograph is a contact print presumably it is of a traceable specimen; but I would like to see the actual coin and make sure that Chapman did not make an error in mounting prints for his plate and mule the obverse of one coin with the reverse of another.

1796-1. No stars. Arrowheads about in line with r. side of N; no spur from 3rd feather; space between clouds below upright of E. The variety earlier described, and still high R-6.

1796-3. No stars. Adams 2, not in C or N. Obv. as No. 1, no stars, die worn down. Rev. The die of 1797: OF farther from STATES, arrowheads end about below I (I in UNITED leaning a little right). Gable 358, fine, and no other reported. Subject to verification.

1796-2, with stars, should be called Adams 3. Later, shows crack from drapery through 796 and at bases of 17.

1797. At least nine different ones are now traceable.

1798. The two varieties listed are respectively Adams 1 and 2. Of the extremely rare no. 2, wide date with 5 berries, probably 8 or 9 are now known--comparable to 1797, which is reasonable considering the mintages. Gable 361 was called unc. but nicked up; it is not now identified. Woodin 931, VF, may be the Ten Eyck, Melish coin.

1802. B-1 is Adams 2; B-2 is probably Adams 3; B-3 is A-1, and is represented by Earle 2500, D.S.Wilson 158, Gable 362, Mills 53, H.P. Smith 240, Stickney 726 and others.

1802-4. This should read: 1st star recut, 9 points showing. Right edge of upright of E over space. Later, crack from wingtip at r. to border.

1804. Mintage figure should read 3327 in all. This was a typographical error; the division is correct. The two varieties are respectively Adams 1 and 2; the 13-star variety is represented in Adams by Earle 2502 and Malcolm Jackson 99.

1821 through 33. A few more proofs have turned up of most of these dates but in no case enough to affect rarity levels. For 1824 there is also a "one-sided" proof, ex Woodin 940, ex Cleneay. For 1825 the two varieties are Adams 1 and 2 respectively.

1827. The proof reported is Woodin 943, also ex Clenway, and also one-sided, the reverse being of proof sharpness but with mint bloom (unpolished die). On all genuine "one-sided proofs" the obv. is perfection with mirror surfaces, the rev. with mint bloom; this holds for all denominations in which they are known.

1834. II-3 should read: 11th and 12th stars recut.

1835-1 should read U close to leaf, not wing.

1836 III-2: about 5 now known, two in the Harry Bass collection, a third discovered by Clarence Rareshide, ex Grant Pierce.

1837-1. Later, cracks from both wingtips to borders.

1838-1. Later, recuttings fade out. John Rowe showed me a gem unc.

1839/8 D. Rev. Arrows merge in CA. Later, crack through bases of UNITED; still later, from rim to second T in STATES to eagle's head--this state quite rare.

1839 O-1. I_n date 39 low, mintmark left of center above 3. Rev. D low, first S high, and on some specimens (lapped diem?) arrow shafts are disconnected from claws.

1840. Later, clash mark (?) from wing at left to leg near branch;

1816 Mint fire; Mickley dies letter.

From Denver Mint to BV's records:

TD Denver Mint News Letter February 1994: 1816 MINT FIRE. The mill-house and the adjoining brick-house burned down. The mill-house was replaced by a large brick building with a 10HP steam engine in the basement. That powerful engine, purchased in England, drove the rolling presses.

TD: Mint Watchmen works from 6:00PM-5:00AM will particularly "examine the department of the engine and all the rooms where the fire has been on the preceding day."The rules state if a fire is spotted the Watchman required to ring the alarm bell. Inside the mint fire was carefully regulated when it was necessary to transport the fire from one part of the Mint to another was done with a dark lantern but not an open candle. The Watch-man is required to ring the yard bell every hour on the hour and send the watchdog immediately after ringing the bell.

WB letter.

From pages 2-3 of that manuscript volume I quote the following; punctuation and spelling
is as in the original:

"In digging out the rubbish from the cellar of the Mint which was destroyed in 1815, a small vault was found under the pavement bricked up with the exception of a small hole, and in tearing away the wall a number of the dies were found in this inclosure, there were about one bushel, they were picked out by workmen and finally sold as old steel to a worker in this metal. Some time after their disposition Mr. James [sic] J. Mickley hearing of them endeavoured to obtain them, but most of them had been worked over, they being of the very best kind of steel, a number of them are now in his cabinet, among which is that very scarce number, the halfpenny of 1811."

The account contains minor inaccuracies: ~~through the Mint~~ Mint was ~~inactive for most of 1815~~, the fire took place in January 1816,[157] and the excavations followed later that year. Mickley's given name was Joseph, not James; and "halfpenny" is an obvious misnomer. Nevertheless, I do not doubt the main outlines of the story. At the time, he was a boy of 17. The Mint fire did not destroy the Mint proper, nor any cellar in it, only ~~an~~ outbuildings including the shed where the rolling mills and planchet cutters were housed; this is why no gold and silver were coined in 1816, and no gold in 1817.[158-60] This event served as an excuse for a thorough and general housecleaning, rebuilding, and remodeling of buildings and machinery.[157-8]

WB's annot. Ency.

CHAPTER 33

QUARTER EAGLES

i. SCOT'S HERALDIC DESIGN, NO STARS (1796)

This coin has three distinctions: It is the first precious-metal coin without stars issued for circulation by the USA prior to 1836; it is the first ever to show the heraldic eagle, which would become standard on all silver and gold denominations 1798–1807; it is the earliest made showing 16 rev. stars honoring Tennessee's admission. The dies show evidence of careless haste, suggesting time pressure. Though documentation is lacking, quarter eagles may have been included in presentation sets commemorating the admission, June 1, 1796. Prooflike presentation coins of this date are known of all other denominations above the cent except the half eagle.

Dies are by Robert Scot (possibly with John Smith Gardner's help, as Hilt {1980} believes). The obv. copies the 1795 half eagle, rev. the Great Seal of the United States (1782; compare the version on the back of the current $1 bill). We do not know the obv.'s ultimate prototype; conjecturally, it was adapted from some Roman copy of a Hellenistic goddess, her hair altered, a big soft cap added. This was long mistaken for the *pilleus,* alias Phrygian cap or liberty cap. The latter was a close-fitting felt cap, ceremonially placed on slaves' heads when they gained their freedom (partly to conceal the short haircuts which instantly identified slaves); it was also worn by freemen after release from the status of prisoners of war (for similar reasons, slaves were originally prisoners of war and their progeny), and by victorious gladiators whose prizes included release from the arena. The liberty cap had the shape of a half eggshell, symbolizing its wearer as a chick emerged from captivity. However, Mint Director Moore identified the cap on the gold coins as a high-fashion headdress of the 1790s: see Chap. 36, Sect. iii, introductory text. Its nearest familiar relative is the mobcap in some portraits of Martha Washington.

On the other hand, all Scot's versions of the heraldic eagle (no less than 10 different device punches) share what is either a heraldic blunder or a piece of stupid saber-rattling bravado: The warlike arrows are in eagle's dexter or more honorable claw (observer's L), whereas the olive branch of peace is relegated to his sinister or less honorable claw: heraldically committing this country to a martial posture in excess of even modern hawks' demands. Compare Chap. 24, Sect. iii, introductory text. The eagle-and-clouds punch used in 1796–97 has 16 stripes to shield, representing red by eight solid bars (raised on coin), rather than vertically shaded as later.

Presentation pieces aside, the first batches for circulation come from one obv. and two rev. dies. Pursuant to Warrants 75 and 77, the [66] of Sept. 22 and the [897] of Dec. 8 went to the Bank of the United States. Hilt says the first batch are his var. 2-A (four known): arrows extend well beyond N, first S and F very close to wings, indentations between clouds are directly below upright of T(A) and l. curve of O; always with vertical crack from rim through E(S) down through head, shield, and tail. Discovered by Harry Bass. The others (Hilt 2-B) have lump at wingtip almost touching F, and the cloud indentations are l. of upright of T(A) and well to r. of center of O; obv. develops a crack from rim at 9:00. Presentation pieces are thought to have this latter rev., uncracked obv.: Mougey:1144; Lusk:93 (?).

Survivors (usually F to EF) are usually unevenly struck: hair near ear, near temple, and at lower part of cap; eagle's neck, breast feathers, and lower part of shield. Border dentils are often weak or incomplete, most of all at lower l. and lower r. obv. Later impressions are often weak at E(RTY), possibly a problem with die alignment as this letter is directly opposite another relief area—eagle's tail. Real UNCs. are prohibitively rare.

SCOT'S HERALDIC DESIGN, NO STARS

Designer, Engraver, Robert Scot. Mint, Philadelphia. Composition, gold 11/12, rest copper with traces of silver. Weight standard, 67.5 grs. = 4.37 gms. Diameter, about 13/16" = 20.6 mm. Edge, vertically reeded. Authorizing act, April 2, 1792.

Grade range, VERY GOOD TO UNC. FINE: Partial detail to eye, nose, mouth, wing feathers, horizontal shield lines; only outlines of drapery and outermost curls; motto complete but weak. VERY FINE: Partial folds of cap and drapery; all major outlines of locks show; partial detail to leaves and tail feathers. EXTREMELY FINE: Isolated tiny rubbed spots only; generally traces of prooflike surface. UNCIRCULATED: *No* trace of wear. NOTES, EXCEPTIONS: See introductory text.

6113 1796 [963] Very rare.
2 rev. vars.; see introductory text. Garrett:732, AU, $125,000, Ed Hipps; Dunham, Eliasberg:79, EF, $26,400. Real presentation strikings have brilliant prooflike surfaces and are better struck than that ill. Enl. photo.



Ex J. W. Garrett: 732. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

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ii. SCOT'S HERALDIC DESIGN, WITH STARS (1796–1807)

During this whole decade, quarter eagles were coined only in isolated driblets of a few hundred or at most a few thousand pieces. In most of these years, each date represented a new design modification—creating instant rarities and type coins. The problem is less why the coins are rare, why so few were made to begin with, but why any were struck at all! To judge from available Archives records, they were ordered on whim by a few local banks (principally the Bank of Pennsylvania and the Bank of the United States); to judge from the condition of survivors, they spent most of their time in vaults. Between 1803 and 1833, the Mint's major output consisted of cents, half dollars, and half eagles; all other denominations had a kind of poor-relative status—seldom called for, few made, little welcome.

Design modifications in this group have mostly to do with number and arrangement of stars in obv. field and above eagle. To understand the sequence, recall that on coins intended for general circulation from 1783–92 the number of stars was normally 13 for the Original 13 United Colonies: the "New Constellation" echoing the flag of 1777 (see Chap. 10, introductory text), later echoing the Great Seal of 1782. Vermont's copper coins at first used a circle of 14 stars with STELLA QUARTA DECIMA, 'The Fourteenth Star,' for local desire to join the Union, which became a reality in 1791. Kentucky became the fifteenth state in 1792, and Peter Getz's pattern half dollars continued the concept by showing 15 stars above eagle: Chap. 16, introductory text. Silver coins in 1794 and gold coins in 1795 followed suit save that the 15 stars were in obv. field. But on Tennessee's admission to the Union, June 1, 1796, Mint Director Elias Boudinot became aware that no law prevented other territories from subsequent admission as new states; which meant that the number of stars on coins had to be frozen, rather than increasing indefinitely. At some unrecorded date in 1797, Boudinot therefore ordered Scot to limit the number of stars on new dies to the original 13; but he left their arrangement to Scot's taste, or lack of it.

The final batch of quarter eagles of 1796 [432], coined at the end of December but delivered Jan. 14, 1797, showed 16 stars, divided 8 + 8 (i.e., 8 l., 8 r., copying the $10 die of June 1796). This is, of course, not an alteration of the old No Stars die, which had broken; E R T Y are spaced much farther apart. Rev. shows 16 stars, but differs from either die found with the No Stars obv. (previous section) or from the 1797. Possibly five prooflike presentation strikings survive; Winter:495, $33,000 (1974); Auction 84:1365, $74,250. Probably fewer than 30 business strikes survive. Hilt thinks the [98] delivered Feb. 28, 1797, per Warrant 82, were from these dies, making [530] in all; this is impossible to prove. Most survivors are VF to EF; mint-state ones show some prooflike surface but lack the exceptional detail sharpness of the presentation coins.

Quarter eagles of 1797 have obv. stars 7 + 6, reflecting Boudinot's order; obv. always shows a heavy crack from Y through field to last star. Rev. must have been made in 1796, as it shows 16 stars randomly scattered above head. Hilt thinks the [585] between 3/14/1797 and 1/11/1798 bore this date (Warrants 83, 93, and 102). Possibly 20 survive, mostly VF; prohibitively rare in mint state, and the numerous auction records for coins called AU represent possibly four specimens playing Musical Chairs, with another two or three optimistically graded.

Those of 1798 have a new rev. device punch: 13 stripes on shield, six vertically shaded for gules (heraldic red), seven blank for argent (heraldic silver or white). Both vars. have the rev. "arc" arrangement discussed under dismes (Chap. 25, Sect. ii) and dollars (Chap. 29, Sect. iii): a row of six stars just below clouds, a row of five below that, plus one each at beak and behind head. In the 1950s, possibly seven or eight examples from the dies with close date and four berries continually showed up at auctions and in dealers' cases at major conventions. Four are UNC., including "Melish":1102 with the "fatal" obv. break; a fifth (ex Leo A. Young, 1959 ANA:956, Bell II:78) is a prooflike presentation piece. Repeated sightings of these same few coins gave the date briefly a reputation for being overrated in rarity, and this var. was believed the commoner of the two. In recent years these coins have all mysteriously vanished; we have been unable to locate a usable photograph! The other var., with wider date and five berries, was originally believed of the highest rarity, as for many years only four were known, and only one of these (ill.) qualified as UNC. Since about 1968, others have shown up in lower grades; today, when a 1798 is offered at auction, it is likely to be one of the eight to 10 with five berries, of which three or four qualify as UNC. The delivery of [480], 12/28/1799, was long believed to comprise the Five Berries coins; none with date 1799 has ever been rumored.

Beginning in 1802, obvs. show stars 8 + 5, copying the half eagles of 1798–1806. The single 1802 obv. is generally called an overdate, 1802/1, a perception possibly influenced by the 1802/1 half-eagle dies. Any trace of 1 within 2 on the quarter eagles requires a microscope. This obv. comes with four rev. dies, two of them also used on dismes; the rarest has leaf wholly free of I, the two least rare respectively with first star (farthest l.; below first cloud) obviously double-punched, or with A away from wing. Most survivors are VF to EF.

Because annual Director's Reports showed a delivery of 423 quarter eagles for 1803, for long this date was believed to exist as a rarity, though nobody ever managed to find a specimen. Adams-Woodin {1913} managed to compound the confusion by listing alleged copper trial pieces from regular dies of this date, and specifying that these should not be confused with the brass British gambling counters of vaguely similar design with KETTLE r. of date. The Kettle counters come also—very rarely—in silver; and some brass specimens have had the name scraped away, possibly to simulate gold coins or trial pieces. But the workmanship is so different from Scot's that no collector who has seen a Kettle counter side by side with a quarter eagle of this design is likely to mistake either for the other. The 1803 delivery is now acknowledged to comprise coins dated 1802.

Two rev. types exist for 1804: The rarer one shows 13 rev. stars in the "arc" arrangement (above), the less rare 14 rev. stars in the old (1798) "cross" arrangement (intersecting straight lines forming diamond-shaped patterns). This latter die was also used on dismes of 1804; it is believed a leftover from 1798–99 when the cross arrangement occurred on dismes, dollars, and half eagles. Possibly nine survive with 13 stars, none above EF; three times as many with 14 stars, in all grades.

The single var. of 1805 has stars 7 + 6; this obv. die was softened at year's end and a 6 punched over the 5, as with one each of the quarter-dollar and half-dollar obvs. of this date—an emergency measure not again repeated, as the redated dies did not hold up long. Other overdates are normally from dies not earlier used and probably not given initial hardening with their earlier dates; reuse of 1805 dies after overdating testifies to Scot's running out of die steel: See introductory texts to Chap. 17, Sect. iv, Chap. 27, Sect. ii, and Chap. 28, Sect. iii. Survivors are mostly VF or EF with a few AU's and "sliders," uncandidly upgraded; prohibitively rare in mint state. However, the 1806/4 is from an unused 1804 die (stars 8 + 5).

Most survivors of this design are dated 1807, with stars again 7 + 6; most are better struck than their elders, survivors better preserved.

1802. HB I-A ✱ leaf free of I.
I-B ✱ spike shield = wing
I-C
I-D ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ punched.

From poor relations and odd little souvenirs, these coins have become great prizes. The usual warning (Chap. 32, Sect. i) about solder marks applies; but the coins are rare enough to command collector attention even when mutilated.

SCOT'S HERALDIC EAGLE DESIGN, WITH STARS

Designer, Engraver, Mints, Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before.
Grade range and standards, as before.

I. 16 STRIPES ON SHIELD

6114 1796 Stars 8 + 8. [432] Very rare.
Hilt 1-C. Delivered Jan. 14, 1797. Enl. photos. Clapp, Eliasberg:80, AU, $26,400. See introductory text.



Ex J. W. Garrett: 733. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6115 1797 Stars 7 + 6. [427] Very rare.
Hilt 5-D. Rev. reused on 1798/7 disme. Obv. break varies in intensity. Usually VF; Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:81, EF, $12,100; Auction 80:886, AU, $34,000. Bell II:77, "gem UNC." (unseen), and 1970 ANA:1424, said to be prooflike, may be finest. Mintage figure comprises the [98], [128], and [201] of Feb. 28, March 14, and June 29, 1797; Hilt thinks the first were dated 1796, the other 2 deliveries plus [256] of Jan. 11, 1798, were all the 1797's. See introductory text.

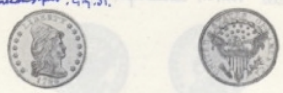


Ex J. W. Garrett: 737. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

II. 13 STRIPES ON SHIELD

6116 1798 [All kinds 1,094] Stars 6 + 7. Close date, 4 berries. Ex. rare.
Hilt 4-B. See introductory text. "Melish":1102, has a "cud" rim break obliterating most of 1, first 3 stars, and part of fourth: "fatal break."

6117 1798 Wide date, 5 berries. Very rare.
Hilt 3-I, who identifies these as the [358] struck May–Aug. 1798. Rev. of 1798–1800 dismes with narrow A's. Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:82, AU, $8,250. See introductory text.



6118 1802 Stars 8 + 5. [3,035]
4 vars.; see introductory text. Mintage figure includes [423] coined in 1803 from 1802-dated dies.



6119 1804 Rev., 14 stars, cross arrangement. [2,324+] Rare.
Hilt 7-F. Rev. left over from 1798, used also on dismes. Auction 82:900, UNC., $15,000. Enl. photos.



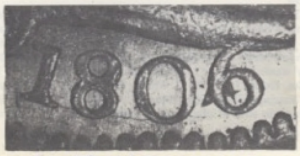
6120 1804 Rev., 13 stars, arc arrangement. [1,003 –] Ex. rare.
Possibly 9 known. Usually in low grades. Charlotte:1672 (S 3/17/79), EF, $20,000; Carter:533, EF, $27,500, M. Brownlee.

6121 1805 Stars 7 + 6. [1,781] Very scarce.
See introductory text. 1980 ANA:66, UNC., $14,000.



6122 1806/4 Stars 8 + 5. [1,136] Rare.
See introductory text. Auction 82:902, UNC., $9,250.





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6123 1806/5 Stars 7 + 6. [480] Very rare.
Obv. and rev. of **6121,** altered by Scot: See introductory text. Always with some stage of break at LIB. Usually in low grades. Newlin, Garrett:740, $22,000, Robison:825, AU, $12,000.



6124 1807 Stars 7 + 6. [6,812]
See introductory text. Usually cracked through base of date and l. stars.

iii. REICH'S CAPPED DRAPED BUST (1808)

John Reich, the German immigrant who sold himself into indentured service to get to the United States during the Napoleonic Wars, and was rescued to become Assistant Engraver of the Mint (1807–17), received orders from Mint Director Patterson to provide improved designs for all denominations: a slap at Scot, his superior in office. Reich's sole contribution to the quarter-eagle denomination is a single pair of dies for a single-year type coin of a tiny mintage: an instant rarity. On Feb. 26, 1808, came the single delivery, [2,710], using date and letter punches reused on 1809 dismes, and bust and device punches not later resurrected. Obv. bears Reich's usual "signature": thirteenth (lower r.) star is notched. Fewer than 50 survivors are traceable, the true number possibly between 35 and 40.

The reason for this tiny issue is unknown, though early die breakage may have had something to do with it. Only one coin has been reported with unbroken obv. die (unverified); all seen to date show a crack extending from cap through all stars at r. All survivors, including the three UNCs., show excessively narrow borders, usually incomplete. This must have been seen as a design flaw conducive to rapid wear on both sides, as on the half-dollar revs. of 1836–37 and the 1861 S Paquet double eagles. Predictably, survivors are in lower grade range than those of earlier dates lacking this problem. The distribution includes three UNCs., possibly six AU's, 15 or more in VF–EF, perhaps a dozen in VG to F. Most are weak on wingtips and tops of letters; all are weak on parts of borders; all have some stars flat; most show rim dents or bruises, as though the entire issue had been spilled on a floor at the Mint.

But even in worn condition, this date has always been subject to unusual demand, much of it representing pressure from type collectors who want one of each major design. Many survivors have accordingly spent decades in museums, estates, or permanent collections; any that shows up at auction will attract fierce competition.

No Archives documentation explains the small mintage, abandonment of the design, or noncoinage of quarter eagles for the dozen years to follow. All we have is conjectures; mine follow.

The tiny mintage may reflect early die breakage and/or quick filling of bank orders for quarter eagles. Banks normally specified the denomination into which they wanted their deposits of foreign coins or native bullion coined, and over 90% of the time they wanted most or all their gold deposits coined into half eagles. Except for 1816–17, when a fire in the Mint's outbuilding housing rolling mills prevented conversion of gold or silver ingots into strip or planchets, coinages of half eagles remained large. The Mint Director may have believed that until more banks ordered quarter eagles, there would be no point in making more dies for them. A more appropriate question is why quarter-eagle coinage was resumed at all; Archives documents fail to provide a reply.

Abandonment of the design may reflect Scot's personal pique. Note that in 1813, Scot replaced Reich's perfectly good half-eagle design with his own capped-head type, and that in 1816 he replaced Reich's beautiful though eccentric "Classic Head" cent obv. with one of the ugliest conceptions ever to misrepresent Ms. Liberty: Possibly Scot's sight was by then failing. Compare introductory texts to Chap. 18, Sects. ix, x, and Chap. 36, Sects. iii, iv.

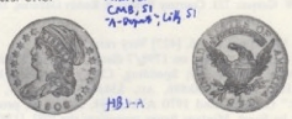
Whatever the causes, the 1808 is a highly coveted rarity. Survivors are under 2% of original mintage (earlier figure was 4%), possibly from the weak borders' exposing the coins to undue wear.

REICH'S CAPPED DRAPED BUST

Designer, Engraver, John Reich. Mints, Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before.

Grade range, VERY GOOD to UNC. FINE: Eye complete, ear half visible, LIBERTY and motto legible but weak, eagle's eye visible. VERY FINE: Partial cap, hair, and claw details; over half wing feathers visible at least as outlines. EXTREMELY FINE: Isolated tiny rubbed spots only; partial Mint luster. UNCIRCULATED: *No* trace of wear. NOTES, EXCEPTIONS: See introductory text.

6125 1808 [2,710] Very rare.
Struck Feb. 26. For peculiarities of striking and grade, see introductory text. David S. Wilson, Clapp, Eliasberg:89, AU, $26,400, Kevin Lipton; Col. Green, Jerome Kern, Dr. Judd, Dr. Ketterman, Jimmy Hayes, Auction 84:1372, $99,000, D. Akers. UNC.



iv. SCOT'S CAPPED HEAD (1821–27)

After over a dozen years of noncoinage of this denomination, apparently a few banks specified that parts of their deposits of gold bullion and foreign coins should be coined into quarter eagles—possibly as Christmas presents or souvenirs. Accordingly, Robert Scot (then 77 years old and with failing sight, but secure in his life tenure as Engraver) devised crude copies of his 1813 half-eagle design, and hastily translated them into one working device punch for head and another for eagle with scroll, thence into working dies. The coins were smaller (19 mm as against the former 20.6), but minutely thicker to preserve their weight unchanged. Letter punches were by Henry Starr.

Only a single obv. die was used in each year, though a second was made for 1821 which remained unused until 1824, when its final 1 was altered to a 4. Reportedly a second 1825 obv. was altered at the Mint by Kneass to 1826—so effectively that at most a microscopic corner of 5 shows at upper l. of 6 and often not even that; its overdate status has been disputed. It must have been made long after its brother of 1825, as it has larger stars as in 1827.

Only a single rev. die exists for each year except 1825. The first rev. of that year is the die of 1821–24: [3,324] Feb. 16–June 30; the second is that of 1826–27: [1,110] Oct.–Dec. 1825. This second var., discovered about 1915 by Waldo Newcomer, has larger denominator, large 2 close to leaf, fraction bar opposite a point a little above center of 2, stem end directly above curve of D rather than above its upright. It remains very rare despite decades of examination of 1825's; possibly 8–10 survive.

Mintages remained of the same order of size as in previous years. Generally, from 30–50 survive of each date, except for 1825 close fraction and 1826. Survivors are mostly VF to UNC., though mint-state examples of 1821, 1826, and 1827 are seldom offered; beware "sliders."

The same warning applies as formerly about coins showing traces of solder.

SCOT'S CAPPED HEAD

Designer, Robert Scot, rev. after Reich. Engraver, Scot. Mint, Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before, except Diameter approximately 3/4" = 19 mm.

Grade range and standards, as 1808, though without the peculiar weaknesses of that date.

6126 1821 [6,448 + ?P] Rare.
Small stars, 1821–25. Proofs and earliest business strikes show guide lines (arcs) between words; on later ones these are effaced. Some (proofs and business strikes) have a tiny depression on cheek from foreign matter adhering to die. To date 7 proofs are traced, one in SI: Clain-Stefanelli (1970), fig. 20. Garrett:743, Proof, $120,000; Parmelee, Mills, Clapp, Eliasberg:90, Proof, $46,200, Auction 84:1373, $71,500; Carter:536, UNC., $12,650. Enl. photos.



6127 1824/1 [2,600 + ?P] Rare.
Date differently spaced from preceding. Serif of 1 within top triangle of 4, and faintly on upper diagonal. Business strikes (Jan. 30) are normally weaker on head and parts of shield and adjacent wing and leg feathers. Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:91, AU, $7,700; Auction 79:1665, UNC., $25,000. Proofs: 1) Mint, SI (cleaned). 2) Cleneay, Woodin, "one-sided" (mirror obv. field, frosty rev. field). 3), 4) Pvt. colls. Enl. photos.



Ex J. W. Garrett: 744. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6128 1825 Distant fraction. [3,324] Rare.
Rev. of 1821–24. Often weak on head. See introductory text. Carter:538, UNC., $17,600, R. L. Hughes.

6129 1825 Close fraction. [1,110 + ?P] Very rare.
Rev. of 1826–27. See introductory text. One proof in SI; 2 others reported; possibly 8–10 business strikes, coined Oct.–Dec. 1825. Enl. photos.



Ex J. W. Garrett: 746. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6130 1826 Larger stars. [760 + ?P] Very rare.
Business strikes coined March 31; generally cataloged as overdate: See introductory text. Pierce, Miles, Ullmer:359, UNC., $14,500 (1974); Auction 79:225, UNC., $31,000. Possibly 3 proofs survive.

6131 1827 [2,800 + ?P] Rare.
Business strikes coined Feb. 19. Usually weak on head. Carter:540, UNC., $17,600. One proof reported.

v. KNEASS'S MODIFIED CAPPED HEAD (1829–34)

After Robert Scot died in 1823, the Mint hired William Kneass, a local engraver of bank-note plates, as his successor. Kneass's special assignment was not to create new designs but to improve existing designs of all series in his spare time, by mechanically multiplying working dies from current device punches. This project yielded modified designs for dismes in 1828, followed in 1829 by similar improved versions of half dismes, quarter eagles, and half eagles, and in 1831 by their counterparts in half cents and quarter dollars. Cents and half dollars would not be attempted for several years; there was still too much demand for coinage in these denominations to afford time to create new device punches.

Kneass's modified designs were notable for smaller stars and letters (from punches by Christian Gobrecht), redrawn heads and eagles (with a more professionally finished look than Scot's frequently crude conceptions), but most of all for beaded borders surrounded by high, plain raised rims produced by a "close collar." This new invention consisted of a heavy block of steel containing a hole the same diameter as the finished coin, grooved to impart the reeded edge; this resisted edgewise expansion of planchets at the moment of striking, furnishing "a mathematical equality to their diameters," according to Mint Director Samuel Moore.

Mintages remained of roughly the same quantities as before; survivors are slightly rarer, and occur in about the same grade range, with perhaps a few more UNCS. Die life was potentially much longer; a single rev. of 1830 stayed in use for proofs and business strikes through 1834—but there was too little bank demand for quarter eagles in any one year to exhaust the effective life of any one obv. die, so that for each year there is only one var.

Proofs exist for each year in this group, but most survivors

are impaired; probably most were spent during the 1837–44 "Hard Times" period.

The most famous of these years, and one of the most illustrious of all American gold rarities, is 1834 with motto. Most of the [4,000] coined before May 30 remained in the Mint, to be melted after Aug. 1, when the new law became effective, reducing standard weight enough to render each old-tenor quarter eagle worth $2.665 (+ silver content of alloy). Several survivors originated as proofs, and not impossibly all did; no mint-state business strike is known, and all the best ones have proof surface. Mint Director J. R. Snowden (1860) could find no record that any business strikes of 1834 old-tenor were released. The roster is as nearly complete as possible, though quality of illustrations in some auction catalogs precludes positive identification.

1. Adam Eckfeldt (1838), Mint Cabinet, SI. Proof.
2. J. Colvin Randall (Dec. 1895), John H. Clapp, Louis Eliasberg:100, $20,900, Kevin Lipton. Lightly rubbed Proof.
3. Harold Newlin (12/31/1884), T. Harrison Garrett, J. W. Garrett:753, $60,000, Auction 82:1860, $30,000. AU, ex-Proof.
4. A. J. Allen, Ira Reed, Thomas L. Gaskill, NN 48:201. EF, ex-Proof.
5. James Ten Eyck, Belden Roach, Louis Eliasberg, NN 49:575, Grant Pierce, R. L. Miles:100, $6,600, Nathan Shapero:750, $4,200. AU.
6. John Story Jenks, William Cutler Atwater, Clinton Hester, 1949 ANA, Chadwick-Darnell:158. EF. Possibly same as no. 13 below?
7. Hillyer Ryder, F. C. C. Boyd, WGC, "J. F. Bell," "Memorable":94, pvt. colls., Mocatta Metals, 1979 ANA:57, $32,000. AU, ex-Proof?
8. Charles M. Williams, Adolphe Menjou:1180, H. P. Graves. EF. Possibly same as no. 11 or 12?
9. Waldo C. Newcomer, Col. E. H. R. Green, Jerome Kern:22, Carter:546. EF, nicked and scratched, $12,650.
10. James Lawson estate (before 1880), Mabel Sandford, 1947 ANA. VF+.
11. Mackenzie, Nicholson Family:53. VF. Possibly same as one of above.
12. "Alto":71. Same comment.
13. Arthur Lamborn, "Fairfield":1461, $19,000, Auction 80:888, EF, $33,000. Same comment.
14. Shuford:1723. Possibly same as one of above; quality of photographic reproduction prevents certainty.
15. 1973 ANA:820. Same comment.
16. Anderson Dyer, Lilly, SI.

KNEASS'S MODIFIED CAPPED HEADS

Designer, Engraver, William Kneass, after Scot and Reich. Mint. Philadelphia. Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before, except Diameter 0.7" = 18.2 mm.

Grade range, F to UNC., most often VF–AU. Grade standards, as before, but without the peculiarities of 1808.

6132 1829 [3,403 + ?P] Rare.
Business strikes coined Feb. 9. Most survivors are EF. At least 8 proofs, possibly 12, mostly nicked and scratched. Enl. photos. Auction 79:765, UNC., $17,000; Carter:541, UNC., $14,300; Garrett:1980, Proof, $105,000.




6133 1830 [4,540 + ?P] Rare.
U(NITED) plainly repunched; this rev. continued through **6137**, repeatedly repolished. Apparently 5 proofs, one each in SI and OCL. Auction 86:893, UNC., $11,000.

6134 1831 [4,520 + ?P] Rare.
Business strikes mostly EF–AU or better. At least 8 proofs, 4 with minor impairment; Stickney, Clapp, Eliasberg:97, $30,800, D. Kagin.

6135 1832 Modified head. [4,400 + ?P] Rare.
Higher apparent relief; different contours to curls, especially below LIBE and above date. This new head punch continues into 1834. Business strikes are not as well struck as 1829–31. Clapp, Eliasberg:98, UNC., $14,300. Proofs: 1) Cohen, Winslow Lewis, Maris, choice. 2) Davis, Woodin, nicked. 3) Bell, "Memorable," Chadwick-Darnell:157, nicked on cheek. Enl. photos.




Ex J. W. Garrett: 751. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6136 1833 [4,160 + ?P] Rare.
Rarer in all grades than 1829–32; much rarer UNC. Proofs: 1) Mint, SI. 2) Parmelee, Mills, Clapp, Eliasberg:99, $50,600. 3) Hall, Graves. 4) Woodin, Newcomer, Col. Green, "Bell," "Memorable," impaired. 5) Pvt. coll.

6137 1834 [4,000– + ?P] Ex. rare.
See introductory text for discussion and roster. Enl. photos.




Ex J. W. Garrett: 753. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

vi. THE REICH-KNEASS "CLASSIC HEADS" (1834–39)

For several decades, the effect of enormous quantities of Mexican, Peruvian, and other Latin American silver reaching world markets had been increasingly to lower the price of silver in terms of gold, or in effect to raise the price of gold bullion (reckoned in Mexican dollars) to a point where U.S. old-tenor gold coins became worth more than face value. During the 1820s and early '30s, most Philadelphia gold coins went to bullion dealers, who promptly shipped them out for melting.

K Jan. 1975:__.

77	1874	Full **LIBERTY** on ribbon. Choice About Uncirculated. Scarce.
78	1874	Full **LIBERTY.** Extremely Fine.
79	1879	Low mintage of 3000 business strikes. Choice Extremely Fine.
80	1880	Extremely Fine with solder spot on rim.
81	1881	Attractive Extremely Fine with considerable lustre.
82	1882	Extremely Fine. Appears to have been mounted.
83	1883	Brilliant Uncirculated with mint lustre
84	1885	Brilliant Uncirculated. Recut legend. ~~A Gem quality coin.~~ BS not in my.
85	1886	Recut **6,** like overdate. Choice About Uncirculated.
86	1887	Brilliant Uncirculated with prooflike surface on reverse.
87	1888	**DOLLAR** recut. Brilliant Uncirculated.
88	1889	Last year of issue. Greatly in demand. Brilliant Uncirculated with nice orange toning.

QUARTER EAGLES
U.S. $2.50 GOLD PIECES – 1796-1929



Lot No. 89

much lustre. Reverse wr. / ck 9:00 a.m. +

89	1796	No Stars on obverse. Design by Robert Scot. Capped bust to right. Rev. Heraldic eagle. A great rarity with possibly only 50 known in our estimation. This choice Extremely Fine specimen has lovely unmarred surfaces and truly is one of the nicest we have seen in past years. Greatly in demand for U.S. gold type sets. PLATE

SEYMOUR WAMPUM MOUNTAIN GOLD DOLLARS

QUARTER EAGLES



Lot. No. 90

90 1798 Widely spaced date with small 8. Five berries on reverse. Rarity 7. Less than 10 known specimens. Traces of mint lustre. ~~Choice~~ Very Fine. Types such as this are seldom available and we can only suggest you bid high in order to obtain these desirable specimens. PLATE



Lot No. 91

91 1802 1 Low mintage of 3035 struck. A lovely Extremely Fine specimen with few marks in field from contact with other coins. PLATE



Lot No. 92

92 1804 14 Stars reverse. Low mintage of 3324. A beautiful well centered specimen with faint ~~die~~ crack in field to right of date. Faint old scratch through neck. Rarity 5. Less than 75 known. PLATE



Lot No. 93

93 1805 Only the one variety known with the small 5 in date. Lovely orange toning. Choice About Uncirculated. Rarity 5. Faint traces of adjustment marks through center clouds. PLATE



Lot No. 94

94 1806 6 over 4 – Stars 8 left, 5 right. Very rare variety with the heavy die break at LI as pictured in the Raymond "Standard Catalogue." Trifle shallow struck center reverse shield and eagle. Just About Extremely Fine. PLATE vf weak center



Lot No. 95

EXTREMELY RARE
1806 OVER 5 QUARTER EAGLE

95 1806 6 over 5 – Stars 7 left, 6 right. Spur at 9th star. 6 touches zero. Variety with faint die breaks from 7th star to top of LIB. Rarity 7. Considerable mint lustre. Much nicer than the specimen in Miles and Pierce sales. Valued at four times as much as the 1806 over 4. Choice Extremely Fine. Worth record bid. PLATE

96 1807 Last year of this type. Lustrous Extremely Fine or slightly better. Only 6812 struck. Very much in demand.



Lot No. 97

EXTREMELY RARE
1808 QUARTER EAGLE

nr AU/EF lt rim marks & wear

97 1808 Capped bust to left. Third type of Quarter Eagle and only year of this type. Design by John Reich. Choice Extremely Fine with considerable lustre. Portions of milling missing as struck. Always in demand and missing from most "type" sets. Will continue to enhance in value. PLATE

QUARTER EAGLES



Lot No. 98

98 **1824** **4 over 1, but no traces of overdate due to wear. Only About Fine obverse with even wear and Very Fine reverse. A scarce type coin. PLATE**

99 1825 Evenly worn Very Good to Fine with traces of mint lustre on reverse. A difficult type to obtain and even in this low grade worth a substantial bid.



Lot No. 100

100 **1827** **Low mintage of 2800 pieces struck. Obverse sharp about Extremely Fine except for faint signs of retooling in front of nose. Reverse sharp Extremely Fine. Rarity 5. Seldom offered. PLATE**



Lot No. 101

101 **1830** **Mintage only 4540. This is a lovely lustrous Extremely Fine specimen. Sharply struck. Types of this quality very difficult to obtain now. PLATE**



Lot No. 102

102 **1832** Sharp Extremely Fine with some handling marks; tiny nick, old scratch. Mintage again low, only 4400 struck. We doubt very much if there are 100 pieces still in existence. The time to buy this type is now. Bid to buy! PLATE

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSE



Lot No. 103

103 1833 **Probably purchased around 1915 (?) because coin came from Henry Chapman and cost $7.50. The original Chapman envelope and ticket with lot. Grading by the conservative Mr. Chapman Very Good and today we feel at least Fine would be acceptable. Scarce. PLATE**

104 1834 No Motto. New type. Prooflike Brilliant Uncirculated with faint handling marks. Scarce this nice.

105 1836 Nice Very Fine. Scarce.

106 1837 Fine-Very Fine. Low mintage. Scarce.

107 1838 Broad rim with narrow denticles. Attractive pale original toning. Choice Extremely Fine.

108 1839-0 Mint mark above date on obverse. Nice Very Fine. Scarce.



Lot No. 109

109 1839-C **Mint mark above date. Recut 39. Faint die breaks on obverse. A choice lustrous About Uncirculated specimen. Sharply struck. (With the H. Chapman, Jr. envelope and ticket – the original owner paid $4.00 for this coin.) PLATE**

110 1839-D 39 over 38. Mint mark above date. Very low mintage. Struck on faulty planchet with lamination at TES on reverse. Overall Fine-Very Fine.

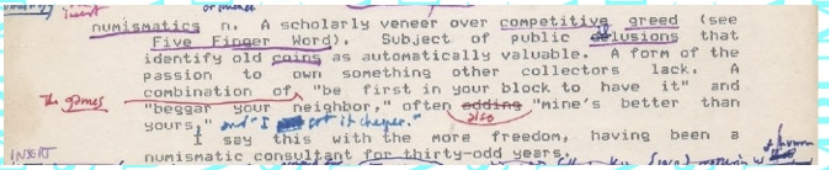
111 1841-C Attractively toned. Choice About Uncirculated. Sharp strike.

112 1843 Large date. Very Fine.

113 1843-D Mint mark high, touches end of arrows. Choice Very Fine.

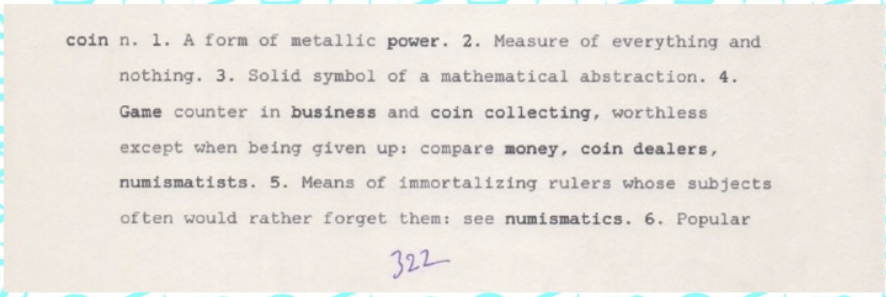
114 1843-O Small date. Faint die crack connects bottom of date. Mint mark high. Choice Extremely Fine.

Cynics Dictionary WB's ms.



numismatics n. A scholarly veneer over competitive greed (see Five Finger Word). Subject of public delusions that identify old coins as automatically valuable. A form of the passion to own something other collectors lack. A combination of "be first in your block to have it" and "beggar your neighbor," often adding "mine's better than yours," and "I got it cheaper."

I say this with the more freedom, having been a numismatic consultant for thirty-odd years.



coin n. 1. A form of metallic **power**. 2. Measure of everything and nothing. 3. Solid symbol of a mathematical abstraction. 4. **Game** counter in **business** and **coin collecting**, worthless except when being given up: compare **money**, **coin dealers**, **numismatists**. 5. Means of immortalizing rulers whose subjects often would rather forget them: see **numismatics**. 6. Popular

322

four-letter word.

Repeat the word often enough and it sounds like "Oink, oink, oink!" (Thank you, Pat Breen.)

coincidences n. Local symmetries in the vast flux of **random.** Compare **causality, because, karma.** The meaningful kind Jung called **synchronicity** {1961} may indicate common ancestry for the **patterns.** Vaughan {1979}:202-226 and passim. Accordingly, many religionists call them "**God**'s sealed orders," "God's way of remaining anonymous."

"Once is an event, twice is a coincidence, thrice is a **pattern.**" --Heuristic truism.

coin collectors n.phr. Prey of **coin dealers.** Potential **numismatists;** therefore, potential **cherrypickers.**

The **game** of **numismatics** is not for the ignorant or the unwary. Its motto is Caveat emptor 'Let the buyer beware.' Beware especially of promotions aimed at the general public (usually offering allegedly rare silver dollars at allegedly bargain prices); learn all you can about **grading;** do comparison shopping; know your dealer--and his reputation among other dealers. Before you buy anything, read Yeoman {1987} for an overview. More specialized information is in Breen {1987}.

coin dealers n.phr. Apt to believe themselves prey of **cherrypickers.** Nevertheless, many brag to their peers about

the rarities they just cherrypicked from some walk-in yokel. Prov. 20:14; Isaiah 24:16. Compare **double standard**.

Even some of the least educated display the title "Professional Numismatist", like Eeyore's tail pinned to his rump.

Their pitfalls are **greed**, **dishonesty**, and **stupidity**. For antidotes, see preceding.

God bless the rare exceptions.

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